FBIS **DAILY REPORT**

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

24 SEPTEMBER 1985

Iran-Iraq War

Iraqi planes launched a "devastating" attack on Khark Island's remaining utilities and equipment 24 September, ensuring that destruction of the island will be "total and final," according to an Iraqi military spokesman cited by Voice of the Masses radio. Earlier, AFP reported that Iran resumed oil exports from Khark Island at a reduced rate after a 24-hour halt in shipping as a result of the 19 September Iraqi air raid. Meanwhile, Iran's Air Force commander warned that Iran is ready to give a "more decisive" response to Iraq, IRNA noted.

In another development, IRNA reported that Iranian artillery destroyed an Iraqi radar site in Al Faw.

Israel

Relations With Egypt, UK — The Egyptians are willing to discuss various compromise solutions for the Tabah dispute outside the framework of either conciliation or arbitration and they have stated that resolving the Tabah issue is not a condition for solving other problems in bilateral relations, Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir disclosed in an interview with Jerusalem radio after meeting his Egyptian counterpart in New York. This is "something new" in the Egyptian attitude, Shamir said, adding that "we are extricating ourselves from a state of paralysis, and this allows for freer negotiations."

In another development, Shamir sharply criticized Great Britain's arms deals with Saudi Arabia and Jordan and its decision to receive PLO officials for talks, accusing the British Government of "appeasement" of the Arabs and of dealing a "terrible blow" to the cause of Mideast peace, the radio reported. Energy and Infrastructure Minister Moshe Shahal criticized Britain for holding up the shipment of oil to Israel which the latter has already paid for, according to Jerusalem radio.

'Akko Bomb — Following Jerusalem radio's report that a bomb explosion wounded a woman in 'Akko, ITIM noted that three Arab members of the 'Akko municipality condemned the terrorist act.

Lebanon

After meeting with Syrian military officials in Tripoli, Islamic Unification Movement leader Shaykh Sa'id Sha'ban announced his side's agreement to the deployment of Lebanese Army and Syrian forces in the area, Beirut radio reported. Brigadier General Ghazi Kan'an, head of the Syrian delegation, said the Syrian and Lebanese troops will collect weapons in the city and he added that they will mount "search and storming operations" to gather concealed weapons. However, while Beirut radio said Tripoli was calm in the wake of the agreement, the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon reported renewed clashes in the city 24 September

Beirut radio announced that the leaders of the Amal Movement, the Progressive Socialist Party (PSP), and the Lebanese Forces have agreed to send representatives to a Syrian-sponsored meeting in Damascus aimed at drafting a "master political plan" that will incorporate each side's proposals. Meanwhile, Amal and PSP gunmen clashed in the western sector, Voice of Lebanon radio reported, noting that the fighting was triggered by the PSP's execution of three Amal gunmen who had fired at a barracks. PSP leader Walid Junblatt expressed "dismay" over the security problems in west Beirut, according to Beirut radio, and the Islamic Grouping called for a 1-day general strike 27 September to protest the "tragic" situation.

In southern Lebanon, the IDF killed two "terrorists" north of Hasbayya, Jerusalem radio reported.

Tunisia

Despite claims by sources cited by JANA that Tunisian President Habib Bourguiba is in a coma and a "struggle for power" has begun in Tunisia, Tunis radio reported that Bourguiba held talks with Prime Minister Mohamed Mzali 23 and 24 September in the Palace of the Republic. Four Libyan Mirage aircraft reportedly violated Tunisian airspace 23 September, according to Tunis radio.

Sudan

Libya has started sending Sudan military supplies agreed upon in the military cooperation program signed by the two countries last July, Sudanese Defense Minister 'Uthman 'Abdallah announced in a statement to the Qatari newspaper *AL-RAYAH* reported by SUNA. The supplies include 50 trucks, trailers, and other equipment.

DRA-Pakistan

The Afghan Foreign Ministry summoned the Pakistani charge d'affaires in Kabul and protested Pakistani militarized units violating Afghan territory 5-7 September, Kabul radio announced, adding that 50 Pakistani militia were killed and another 80 were wounded. Meanwhile, the radio reported that DRA forces killed 300 rebels during an attack on a "major" enemy camp in the Khowst area, but gave no date.

Pakistan

Nearly all of Pakistan's opposition leaders were placed under house arrest in Lahore to prevent discussion on an amendment to the country's constitution known as the "indemnity bill," AFP reported. The 11-party Movement for the Restoration of Democracy had planned an emergency session to formulate a common policy if the National Assembly adopts the amendment.

FBIS DAILY REPORT CONTENTS

Middle East & Africa

Vol V No 185 *24 September 1985*

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW i

INTER-ARAB AFFAIRS

Abu Nidal Threatens To Kill PLO Members at UK Talks *[AFP]* .... A 1
AL-QABAS Interviews Palestinian Leader Abu Nidal *[21 Sep]* .... A 1
PLO Executive Committee Meeting Continues in Iraq .... A 5
  'Arafat Welcomes UK Decision *[London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT 23 Sep]* .... A 5
  Baghdad Meetings *[Baghdad Voice of the PLO]* .... A 5
AL-SHARQ Claims 'Arafat Visited Tripoli, Lebanon *[Radio Free Lebanon]* .... A 5
PNC Speaker on Al-Qadhdhafi Contacts, Murphy's Visit *[Kuwait AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM 22 Sep]* .... A 5
PLO Issues Statement on Tripoli Fighting *[Baghdad Voice of PLO]* .... A 6
Joint Forces Attack Zionist Military Position *[Baghdad Voice of PLO]* .... A 6

ARABIAN PENINSULA

BAHRAIN

AL-ADWA': U.K. Stand on PLO Delegation 'Positive' .... C 1

KUWAIT

Minister Denies Syrian Visit-U.S. Hostage Link *[AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM 22 Sep]* .... C 1
Protest to UN Over Iranian Ship Seizures .... C 1
Efforts to Diversify Oil-Reliant Economy *[ARAB TIMES 21 Sep]* .... C 1

OMAN

Saudi, Qatari Naval Unit Arrive in Oman .... C 2

QATAR

Amir Receives Message From Mauritanian Leader .... C 2

SAUDI ARABIA

Thatcher Mideast Tour Linked to U.S. Initiatives .... C 2

UAE

President Receives Mauritanian President's Message .... C 3
  Mauritanian Envoy Departs .... C 3

PDRY

Ethiopian Leader Concludes 3-Day Visit .... C 3
YSP Chairman Receives Message From GDR's Honecker .... C 3

EGYPT

Lutfi Discusses Mideast Peace, Mubarak's U.S. Visit .... D 1
Lutfi Receives Congratulations From Shim'on Peres .... D 1
Israeli-Led Group Arrested for Filming Military Units *[Kuwait AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM 19 Sep]* .... D 1

AL-AHALI on 'Espionage' by Israeli Academic Center *[11 Sep]* D 1
NDP Leader Rules Out 'Military Action' Against Libya D 2
AL-AHRAM on Issues To Be Raised by Mubarak in U.S. *[23 Sep]* D 2
AL-AHALI on Mubarak's U.S. Visit, Western Pressure *[18 Sep]* D 2
AL-AHALI on Nation's Debts, Proposed Remedies *[18 Sep]* D 3

IRAQ

Planes Attack Khark Island 24 September E 1
Reportage on Combat Operations in War With Iran E 1
'Aziz Meets Foreign Ministers at UN Session E 1
U.S. Trade, S&T Cooperation Agreement Signed E 2
    U.S. Delegation Departs 24 Sep E 2
Hungarian Cooperation Talks Begin 21 Sep E 2
    Ba'th Official Meets Delegation E 2
Comunications Minister Meets YAR Official E 2
Ramadan Chairs Meeting on Trade, Imports E 2
Editorial Warns Iran Against Kuwait 'Adventure' E 3
'Further Destruction' of Iranian Economy Viewed E 3

JORDAN

Crown Prince Discusses PLO Accord, Peace Efforts F 1
Foreign Minister Departs for UN Session *[AL DUSTAR 23 Sep]* F 1
Al-Qasim Returns From Talks With Saudi Minister F 1
Newspapers View Thatcher Visit, Press Conference F 1
U.S., Israeli Reaction Examined F 2
Briefs: New Ambassadors Sworn In F 3

LEBANON

Tripartite Meeting To Be Held in Damascus G 1
Al-Jumayyil Receives Telephone Call From Al-Asad G 1
Al-Jumayyil Interviewed on 3d Anniversary in Office G 1
Clashes Continue Along Combat Lines in Tripoli G 5
    9 Killed, 66 Wounded G 5
    Islamic, Syrian Delegations Meet G 5
    Agreement Fails To End Clashes *[Radio Free Lebanon]* G 5
Shelling, Sniping Reported in Beirut, Mountain G 6
    PSP Executes Amal Members *[Voice of Lebanon]* G 6
    Al-Huss Lashes Out at Gunmen G 6
    Junblatt Briefed on Events G 6
    AL-SAFIR Blames Birri, Junblatt *[Radio Free Lebanon]* G 6
Islamic Grouping Calls for General Strike 27 Sep G 7
Resistance Forces Carry Out Operations in South G 7
Israeli, Lahd Forces Shell Areas in South G 7

SYRIA

Saudi Prince Statement on Jordanian-Syrian Talks H 1
Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister Visits *[Iran]* H 1
Al-zu'bi Receives PNC Speaker Al-Fahum H 1
Baqjaji Confers With Canadian Official, Envoy H 1
    Received by Al-Shar' H 1
Bulgarian Metallurgy Minister Visits Oil Fields H 1
Polish Science Minister, Delegation Depart H 1
Egyptian Opposition Solidarity Message to Al-Asad H 1
Al-Kasm Briefs Cabinet on Political Situation H 2
Jordanian Economic Delegation Meets Al-Tarabulsi *[Amman AL-RA'Y 20 Sep]* H 2
Conditions for Better Arab Relations Viewed H 2
AL-THAWRAH on S. Lebanon Conflict as Pan-Arab H 3

TISHRIN on Anti-Israeli Resistance, Syrian Role .... H 3

ISRAEL

Ambassador Submits Protest Over UK Moves .... I 1
Shamir Accuses Britain of 'Appeasement' .... I 1
Peres Receives Shultz Message on Peace Process .... I 1
Shamir, Egypt's Al-Majid Discuss Tabah Issue .... I 1
    Shamir Comments on Meeting .... I 1
Peres Upholds Delegation's Authority on Tabah *[THE JERUSALEM POST 24 Sep]* .... I 2
Peres Discusses Policies With Knesset Committee .... I 2
    Egyptian Ties, UK Moves Viewed .... I 2
    Notes Decrease in Terrorism .... I 2
    Notes 'Encouraging' USSR Signs .... I 2
Knesset Committee Condemns UK Decisions .... I 3
Energy Minister Denounces UK 'Hypocrisy' on Oil .... I 3
W. Bank Palestinians Praise Thatcher Invitation *[THE JERUSALEM POST 24 Sep]* .... I 3
Rabin Rejects Free Political Activity Request *['AL HAMISHMAR 23 Sep]* .... I 3
MA'ARIV on Involvement in USSR Technology Theft *[20 Sep]* .... I 3
Jordanians Blame PLO for Failure of Negotiations *[HA'ARETZ 23 Sep]* .... I 4
Knesset Approves Final Reading of Price Law .... I 4
Price Index Increases 2.2 Percent in September .... I 4
Histadrut, Government Agree on Wage Adjustments .... I 4
Scientist First To Enter PRC on Israeli Passport *[MA'ARIV 20 Sep]* .... I 4
Coptic Tourists From Egypt To Make First Visit *[HA'ARETZ20 Sep]* .... I 5
Katyushas Fall in Galilee; No Casualties .... I 5
IDF Force Kills 2 Terrorists in Security Strip .... I 5
Hostile Attacks Increase 100 Percent This Year *[HA'ARETZ 23 Sep]* .... I 5
Arab Youth Shot, Killed in Jerusalem 24 Sep .... I 5
ASL Captures Terrorist Squad, Suicide Driver .... I 5
Chief of Staff Defends IDF Soldiers' Conduct .... I 5
'Akko Arab Councilmen Condemn Terrorist Act .... I 6
Antiracist Organization Formed To Oppose Kahane *[THE JERUSALEM POST 24 Sep]* .... I 6

INTER-AFRICAN AFFAIRS

CAPTAC Conference Opens in Libreville 23 Sep .... P 1

NORTH AFRICA

LIBYA

Al-Qadhdhafi Addresses Basic Popular Congress Meeting .... Q 1
JANA: Bourguiba In Coma; Power Struggle Begins .... Q 1
    Bourguiba Near Death .... Q 1
Announcement of UK-PLO Talks in London Dismissed .... Q 1
Secretary General Rajab Begins Visit to Turkey .... Q 2

MOROCCO

Equatorial Guinean Foreign Minister Arrives .... Q 2

SUDAN

Defense Minister Cited on Military Ties With Libya .... Q 2
Prime Minister Receives U.S. Ambassador .... Q 2
Minister Orders Media To Discourage Demonstrations .... Q 2
Finance Minister Addresses Cabinet on Budget .... Q 2
Democratic Party Condemns Garang's 'Attitude' .... Q 3

TUNISIA

Four Libyan Mirage Aircraft Violate Airspace .... Q 3
Bourguiba, Mzali Meet; Appointments Announced .... Q 3
    Bourguiba Meets Appointees .... Q 3
    Bourguiba Takes 'Usual Walk' .... Q 4
French External Relations Minister Arrives .... Q 4
    Bourguiba Receives Dumas .... Q 4
French Socialist Arrives as Guest of Mzali .... Q 4
LE MONDE on Status of Tunisian-French Relations *[22-23 Sep]* .... Q 4

EAST AFRICA

ETHIOPIA

Mengistu Receives Ugandan Foreign Minister .... R 1
Mengistu Returns Following Visit to PDRY .... R 1
Asrat Wolde-Led Delegation Leaves For USSR .... R 1

KENYA

Moi Appeals for 'Immediate Cease-Fire' in Uganda .... R 1

SOMALIA

Italian Prime Minister Arrives for 3-Day Visit .... R 2
    Received by Siad Barre .... R 2
    Arms Request Rejected *[Rome]* .... R 2
    Craxi Tours Camp .... R 2
    Craxi Attends Banquet .... R 2
    Official Talks Begin .... R 3
    Craxi on Aid Commitment *[Rome]* .... R 4
    Report on Communique .... R 4
    Craxi Departs .... R 5
    Foreign Minister on Visit .... R 5

TANZANIA

Nyerere Comments on Situation in Uganda *[Kampala]* .... R 6
Foreign Ministry Condemns RSA Attack on Angola .... R 6
Nyerere Leaves on Canada, Cuba, Angola Tour .... R 6

UGANDA

Paper Says Government Troops Loot Jinja *[Nairobi THE STANDARD 24 Sep]* .... R 6
Troops Retake 'Key' Bridge at Jinja *[THE KENYA TIMES 23 Sep]* .... R 7
Kenyan Truckers Stranded Near NRA-Held Masaka *[THE KENYA TIMES 24 Sep]* .... R 7
Okello Lutwa Returns From Nairobi Meeting .... R 8
Otunnu Returns Home After 7-Nation African Tour .... R 8
NRA Spokesman Comments on Kenya Talks *[BBC]* .... R 8

WEST AFRICA

GHANA

Foreign Secretary Leaves for UN General Assembly .... T 1

SOUTHERN AFRICA

ANGOLA

Spokesman Says SADF Troops Still in Country *[Umtata]* ..... U 1
Malan Statements on UNITA Support Criticized ..... U 1
ANGOP Claims U.S. Supports RSA Operation ..... U 1
UNITA's Savimbi Asks U.S. Assistance *[Umtata]* ..... U 2

MOZAMBIQUE

'Armed Bandits' Kill Four on Maputo Outskirts ..... U 2
Police Communique on Radio Explosion ..... U 2

SOUTH AFRICA

Senior Foreign Affairs Officials Leave for U.S. ..... U 2
Defense Minister Cited on UNITA Support ..... U 3
Commentary Questions U.S. Intention on Angola ..... U 3
Botswana Foreign Minister To Visit 25 Sep ..... U 4
Convention Alliance Announced in Johannesburg ..... U 4
    Buthelezi Comments ..... U 5
    'Declaration of Intent' ..... U 5
Pik Botha Notes Changes Needed to Counter 'Lies' ..... U 6
Heunis Says Reform Open to Everyone ..... U 7
Du Plessis Announces Economic Relief Measures ..... U 7
P.W. Botha on Economic Cooperation ..... U 7
Team of Doctors To Examine Nelson Mandela ..... U 8
35,000 Attend Peaceful Funeral Near Cape Town *[Umtata]* ..... U 8
5 Killed, 30 Injured in Transvaal Mine Fighting *[Umtata]* ..... U 8
Police Disperse Stone-Throwers With Birdshot ..... U 8
Police Report Notes Overnight Incidents ..... U 8
Police, SADF Seal Off Cape Townships 24 Sep ..... U 9
Press Reportage on Ongoing Unrest ..... U 9

ZIMBABWE

Nkomo Names 3-Man Delegation to Unity Talks ..... U 11

Abu Nidal Threatens To Kill PLO Members at UK Talks

NC241002 Paris AFP in English 0958 GMT 24 Sep 85

[Excerpt] Damascus, Sept 24 (AFP) — The hardline Palestinian group of Abu Nidal today threatened to execute two Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Executive Committee members if they go ahead with planned talks with Britain next month.

British Premier Margaret Thatcher announced during a visit to Jordan last Friday that the two, Muhammad Milhim and Iliya Khuri, would meet British Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe in London, with two Jordanian ministers.

Jordan and the PLO had been seeking exploratory talks with permanent members of the UN Security Council since last February, which they agreed on joint action aimed at an international Middle East peace conference.

Fatah-Revolutionary Command, which is led by Palestinian renegade Abu Nidal, issued its warning today in a statement distributed in the Syrian capital.

It would execute the PLO pair, it said, "if they do not respect the determination and right of the Palestinian people to pursue the armed struggle."

The statement urged them not to take part in the "betrayal" of the London talks, and immediately to proclaim their opposition to last week's accord between Mrs. Thatcher and King Husayn of Jordan.

AL-QABAS Interviews Palestinian Leader Abu Nidal

GF230855 Kuwait AL-QABAS in Arabic 21 Sep 85 p 11

["Text" of interview with Sabri al-Banna, indentified by his nom de guerre Abu Nidal, leader of the "Fatah Revolutionary Council," by *AL-QABAS* chief editor Muhammad Jasim al-Saqr in Tripoli, Libya — date not given]

[Text] [Al-Saqr] Brother Abu Nidal, Kuwait is an Arab country that has an honorable pan-Arab stand. Nevertheless, we notice that you have an inimical stand toward it.

[Abu Nidal] We do not have personal differences with Kuwait because no one differs with states or societies. Our differences are with the way some officials in Kuwait treat the Palestinians and the Arabs. As a Palestinian Arab, my stand is a Palestinian one. As a people, we have a massive presence in Kuwait and our relations with Kuwait have been strong during the past 40 years. This should have created a trend in Kuwait enabling it to know how to deal with the Palestinians with their national and pan-Arab feelings without being biased toward one group or faction that assumes the right to control the Palestinians in Kuwait without giving any consideration to any other Palestinian trend or policy. I belong to an organization that is national, pan-Arab, and socialist. Consequently, this makes me more than a mere Palestinian. Right from the beginning, we felt that there was a trend opposed to any line outside 'Arafat's line. We broke away from 'Arafat's line, which we considered outside the line of the entire Arab nation, including Kuwait, and its future. We felt that there was an opposition in theory which turned into a practical one. They opened files on us in the security and intelligence services circles. Thank God, our organization has most of these files. We sought many ways, and I believe that when certain officials read what I say, things will become clear. There is no need to be extra clever or to use deceptive methods; we do not need these methods. It is in Kuwait's interest to have a clearly balanced relationship with the Palestinians. But when the interest of one faction, which predominates because of regional and Arab considerations, is placed above those of another faction concerning the future of the Palestinian people, we have the right to fight this trend. We have heard much talk about criminals, killers, and extortionists, etc. This is the problem, and nothing else.

Some believe we are seeking money from Kuwait. We do not want money from Kuwait; there are some 300,000 Palestinians in Kuwait who pay 5 percent of their monthly income to the Kuwaiti Government as a mandatory tax. Kuwait decided to give this tax money to the PLO. Kuwait admits, through its press, that all the Arab League resolutions are practically invalid, including the resolution to give the 5 percent income tax to the Palestinians. We proposed to Kuwait that it distribute this amount justly to all the Palestinian factions, including the groups that we differ with and which fight us with weapons. As long as things are this way, it is our right to have our share, just as others have theirs. I do not know why 'Arafat's leadership should receive its share while others are denied this right. If 'Arafat is backed by superpowers, they cannot determine the future of the Palestinians at all, although we respect friends among these powers. Our future cannot be determined through a decision by a superpower. I tell you in honesty, this is our problem. We have sought dialogue by every means, but we were turned down. We do not blackmail Kuwait, and we were not involved in the stock market. We were not engaged in trading in this market, and we were not brokers against any one at all.

[Al-Saqr] I am not a government official but an ordinary citizen. Still, I can see things. In my opinion, Kuwait has a good stand on the Palestinian issue. This was clear during the Casablanca summit. It also adopted an open-door policy toward the resistance factions; it received George Habash [PFLP secretary general]; contacts are also under way with many resistance factions. Perhaps contacts have been held with you. On the popular level, there are courageous parliamentary stands, and the Kuwaiti press in general maintains a good stand. The pressing question is: Do you think that arms and force can bring positive results? If there is a just cause, there are many ways of reaching an understanding on it. Besides, do you not think that Kuwait's stand toward the Palestinians is better than that of others?

[Abu Nidal] I did not say Kuwait does not maintain a good stand. Frankly, we distinguish between the Kuwaiti authorities and the Kuwaiti masses. We may differ on this point, and this is something else. We do not feel there is a difference between the Kuwaiti masses and us. We consider many Kuwaiti youths to represent a symbol of a bright future. We are not far from them. You can publish these remarks. Hundreds of Kuwaiti young men know who Abu Nidal and his organization are; they spare some of their daily bread to give to this organization. This makes us raise the question of how this organization survives without other organizations and how it is waging these conflicts. There is no doubt that Kuwait also is distinguished from other countries in certain aspects, and I cannot compare it to others at all. But there are negative aspects on this side. We understand what freedom of the press in a liberal society means. We know this, and we know that Kuwait does not have a negative or hostile stand. This stand was perhaps adopted by some advisers who have leanings toward other parties and who concealed information and wanted to create a certain atmosphere among the authorities in Kuwait. These advisers have their agents in Kuwait whom I do not know. But I know that they receive information from various organizations and they conceal this information or exploit it for other things.

Brother Muhammad, another matter is that I expect you to be a fair defender of both sides. Go to the prisons now and have a look at the detainees. I understand that the accused is subjected to torture before investigation into his case, because we are all living in backward societies. They are barbarians in Kuwait, but we are more barbaric than they are. What I do not understand is the daily torturing of the accused after he is convicted and put in prison. I have never heard of that in any country in the world, although I am interested in following this question in view of the circumstances under which we live. I tell the Kuwaiti authorities that this should not happen. When someone in the council of ministers speaks about the Israeli occupation and says that the enemy spent $3.5 billion to invade Lebanon, I only raise this question: How much did Kuwait pay to resist this occupation? When Kuwait speaks about the Palestinian issue, it actually speaks about it in a very logical manner. Sometimes I feel that Kuwait speaks about the Palestinian issue just like Abu Nidal. However, this is not the right behavior. I sometimes wonder why Kuwait makes hasty decisions about the problems of war. Some days ago, I sent them a message advising them to abandon this position and to stop the provocative statements against Iran and others, because this is not in the interest of Kuwait. I know that. I entrust you with the task of asking Saddam Husayn, if you meet him, about the unofficial Arab figure who stood against him in this Arab world. If he does not tell you that it is Abu Nidal, you can spit on me in Kuwait. I will accept that with an open heart. I opposed the war and acted against it inside the Ba'th Party in Iraq. I now say that I respect Khomeyni because he is a leader that persevers, and that I differ with him on four points. I differ with his revolutionary program on four points. I differ with him in particular about his view on the Arab world and the Arab nation. I am a nationalistic man. I have spent my life as a nationalist and will die a nationalist. I don't want the Arab nation to place roses on my grave. They should not claim that those are the agents of the Syrian regime or the agents of the Iranian regime or agents of other parties. You don't understand that, but I understand it. I contacted them by myself and my voice is recorded by them. Hence, they should reconsider this issue. If they don't do that, I am ready to say that the PLO leadership and all those belonging to it in Kuwait will be buried.

[Al-Saqr] I did not hear the word well.

[Abu Nidal] Will be buried — 'Arafat's leadership in Kuwait, and not outside it. We are capable of that, and this is not just a threat. What does 'Arafat's presence in Kuwait mean? Who chose 'Arafat? Is it the Arab League? Where is the Arab League? The Arab League is invited to settle differences between any two Arab countries. Is the Arab League only concerned about the PLO and the Fes resolutions? Who recognizes the Fes resolutions? I speak from an Arab point of view. What I say could be wrong, but it could be right. The brother officals in Kuwait are kindly requested to tell us what is right and what is wrong. Those whom they want are right and those whom they don't want are wrong. Give me an example indicating that we have insulted a Kuwaiti citizen. A Kuwaiti officer has been wounded. We told him repeatedly and begged him not to torture people. Kuwait is the country and let them do in it what they want, on the condition that they do not hurt others. I do not hurt any Kuwaiti party unless it insists on interfering. I do not and should not accept a situation like this. Kuwait has embraced all the Palestinian spies who came from abroad and from Lebanon. We are not marxist communists. If Kuwait is an Arab country, we are also Arabs who have rights. Let them tell us what the difference is. If they are afraid of Britain, we tell them that nobody in the world fears Britain anymore. Are they afraid of the Americans? I will give you information that you don't know about U.S. activities in Kuwait. Hence, whoever wants to protect Kuwait should deal with the nationalists. When differences occured between Kuwait and Jordan, Jordan resorted to blackmailing.

We do not oppose anybody in Kuwait who does not cooperate with the Zionist enemy. We will never allow anybody to cooperate with the Zionist enemy. They call us terrorists and criminals. Let them call us what they like. Has anybody in the Arab world tolerated as many insults as I have in the past 10 years? If you wish to know all insults in Arabic, you only have to bring Abu Nidal's file. Two persons were exposed to insults in Arab history, one is named Abu Nidal and the other is his opponent whose name is Mu'awyah.

You should look at Kuwait from two perspectives: the perspective of the regime or the officials or the advisers and the contrary perspective. When did we carry out a single action in Kuwait for the benefit of Iraq? You remember the fire that broke out in the gas building. They accused us of burning this building. We cannot involve ourselves in dirty operations. Go and ask Saddam Husayn. I am ready to go to Iraq even if it would cost me my life. Saddam can say whether our organization has carried out any operation for the benefit of Iraq. Some matters must have interacted in certain circumstances due to our struggle with the PLO leadership. We accept that we remain accused until we are proclaimed innocent. But then let people know who Abu Nidal is and whether or not we are members of Mosad, the KGB, the CIA, or the BMD.

[Al-Saqr] Let us shift to another part of the issue. Why is it particularly necessary for Kuwait not to deal with the PLO as the legitimate representative of the Palestinian people? Kuwait has a very large Palestinian community that has its own daily worries. Kuwait officially recognizes the PLO office in Kuwait. This office provides daily services for thousands of Palestinians in Kuwait. Is it required that Kuwait extend more services for the Palestinians than the other Arab countries?

[Abu Nidal] All you have said is correct theoretically. I am a member of the PLO because my parents are Palestinians. I was a former member of 'arafat's leadership. Now, for example, there are no members of 'Arafat's leadership in Kuwait except Salim al-Za'nun. But there are dozens of leaders who have no connection with the PLO in Kuwait. They have their own houses, equipment, armored cars, etc. Currently the PLO actually does not exist. In theory, yes. The money has not been spent in the interest of the Palestinian people. Come with us to the Palestinian camps in Lebanon and see what kind of services are extended by the PLO. There are those who escalate the issue. We are a covert organization. We are like Karmathians [a group opposing the Abbassid dynasty]. We are forced to fight in all fields. Therefore our action is secret, and it is not in our interest or that of Kuwait to reveal our actions to the Kuwaiti authorities. But to imageine that someone resides in Kuwait and gets money from ... and to try to twist our arms in Kuwait. No, he cannot, because even Saddam Husayn, who is the most powerful ruler in the Arab world, cannot twist this finger at God. I will say it courageously, and I will leave it for the witnesses, among whom is Mahmud 'Abas, who once witnessed the extent of the moral courage I had when dealing with Saddam. Kuwait is an Arab country. We are all Arabs, and we have rights in Kuwait among which is the issuing of diplomatic passports. 'Arafat has 131 passports issued from Kuwait, including diplomatic passports.The Kuwaiti authorities have no right to forbid someone or to allow someone else to enter. If there was a company in Kuwait belonging to Abu Nidal, it would be closed within 24 hours and all its employees would be arrested for investigation. If I tell you that Khalid al-Hasan has more capital than any Kuwaiti family, what does that mean?

[Al-Saqr] In that case the government would say that Abu Nidal has a prior security record, but Abu al-Sa'id has no prior security cases. Your name is related with these security matters.

[Abu Nidal] Historically not only in Kuwait.

[Al-Saqr] Did you have any part in the recent explosions in Kuwait?

[Abu Nidal] You may ask Sabah al-Ahmad.

[Al-Saqr] And the recent events in FRG?

[Abu Nidal] We were responsible for them. Yes, and in Brussels, Madrid and Rome. What do you want? The list is very long.

[Al-Saqr] There is a very large Palestinian community in Lebanon. These Palestinians are being subjected to slaughter. The camps are being attacked. Palestinian children, women and old men are dying. This is worse than dealing with an authority or issuing a passport. What is your position in the Palestinian arena?

[Abu Nidal] I think we have a role in defending the Palestinian camps. We are needed as an organization. The national organizations cannot swallow us. We are not easily swallowed. There is a fascist power dominating the Amal movement. There are others who believe that the solution in Lebanon is linked to the liquidation of the Palestinian presence.

[Al-Saqr] But the size of the Amal movement, its surrender, and the intensification of its role are all connected with Damascus?

[Abu Nidal] I cannot deny the role of Damascus, but I can say that the Arab treasury was responsible for building Amal, because Amal was raised in the bosom of Yasir 'Arafat and Salah Khalaf. We in Fatah wanted our brother Shi'ites to develop and to create a favorable atmosphere. We never expected that what happened could happen. But you must ask 'Arafat about that. Regarding the Syrian brothers, they have their own decisions. But whether we agree or disagree with them, this is another issue.

[Al-Saqr] Well, according to your information, did 'Arafat send reinforcements to the camps in southern Lebanon via the sea and did he send $400 million during the Sabra and Shatila battle?

[Abu Nidal] During Sabra and Shatila battle, $400 million were allocated. Give me $400 million and 5 years and I can change the Middle East. Do not execute me but turn me into a lesson in history. Anyway, 'Arafat only spent a few million and he did not spend them on Sabra and Shatila but on the notorious elements in the Amal movement who allowed in arms for the revolution forces in the Arab world. 'Arafat made the national and pan-Arab movement in Kuwait withdraw and disintegrate. He is the one who destroyed everything in this region. 'Arafat never existed before. With all his greatness, 'Abd al-Nasir left a heritage of negative and positive aspects but he never left a negative aspect similar to that of 'Arafat's policy. This should be made clear.

[Al-Saqr] How are your relations with Iraq?

[Abu Nidal] (......) [as published]

[Al-Saqr] What is your role inside the occupied territories, where an effective resistance is being waged with knives and stones?

[Abu Nidal] We are the only organization whose members are executed inside the Zionist entity. Only one of our detainees was among those who were released. Israel is detaining 48 of our people. What are our possibilities now? We are currently waging a third world war in the region. We have moved arms to Egypt, and fought against Numayri and in Europe. How do we do all this?

[Al-Saqr] Do you believe that the assassination of the Israeli diplomat in Egypt is the beginning of the liquidation of all those who deal with Israel under the banner of normalization of relations between Egypt and Israel?

[Abu Nidal] According to my information, there is a real organization in Egypt consisting of a group of educated youths and soldiers, employees, and others. This is an organization of Egypt's revolutionaries. This organization is a fact and not an illusion. Their goal is to liquidate the results and protocol of Camp David and thus put Egypt in its real place in the Arab heart. This is their way of thinking and method and we are with them with all that we have, including our lives.

[Al-Saqr] Are you with them politically or do you have an actual relationship?

[Abu Nidal] We are with them politically and physically and in everything.

[Al-Saqr] Do you think that the Arab world is currently in a position to permit the outbreak of a popular revolution against current regimes?

[Abu Nidal] There is nothing left in the Arab world that deserves our concern. If the individual in the Arab homeland has no value at all, then what is left in our lives that has any value?

[Al-Saqr] Abu Nidal, it is clear that there is a radical difference with Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] and we know that.

[Abu Nidal] To begin with, I disagree with him in moral conduct, because I am a man who lives a normal life.

[Al-Saqr] This takes us to another question. Is there a "veto" against all the Palestinian leaderships that deal with 'Arafat? For example, is it possible to meet with Abu Iyad.

[Abu Nidal] Absolutely not.

[Al-Saqr] Abu al-Lutf?

[Abu Nidal] I postpone the answer.

[Al-Saqr] Well, what about George Habash and Nayif Hawatimah.

[Abu Nidal] Brother Muhammad, this is a difficult question.

[Al-Saqr] What is your stance on the latest movement led by Abu Musa?

[Abu Nidal] The latest movement — even the Kuwaiti press didn't tackle it comprehensively, but reported only some events related to it. The uprising was the result of a number of internal, Arab, and Palestinian conflicts. At the beginning we adopted a united stance concerning the uprising, but people considered us not directly involved in it, although our comrades started it. Five days before the uprising 'Arafat had five of our friends axed. This scene was videotaped and a number of Arab leaders are in possession of the tape. This hastened the uprising.

[Al-Saqr] Did they ax your friends?

[Abu Nidal] Yes, they cut them with axes — three of them were engineers in the Al-Biqa' area. Even President Al-Asad did not believe that it had happened until after he was told the facts of the incident. They cut their bodies and we left them in the street. We left them there for a few days for people to see. We did not respond foolishly or with anger. When the uprising took place, we put all our capabilities into it. The leadership of the uprising consisted of brother Abu Salih, Abu Musa, Abu Khalid al-'Amlah, and Qadri. Then differences emerged and brother Abu Salih and Qadri left. We started negotiations here in Tripoli with Abu 'Ammar to restore the unity. As soon as we agreed, the Palestine National Salvation Front was declared. Now each group works separately.

Concerning brother George Habash, I consider him an ambitious Arab youth. I respected him because he was an Arab Palestinian youth who became a important Arab leader because he is a Christian. I am interested in history and I hope that Arab leaders will come from the courageous Christian fighters who can differentiate between tactics and strategy and confront the political "Vatican" that keeps us busy day and night. Christianity is an Arab Palestinian invention. Thus we understand it best and hope that Dr George will return to his original principles and line. Certainly we will be soldiers, but at the present time. [sentence as published]

[Al-Saqr] It means you think that Habash abandoned his line?

[Abu Nidal] Certainly, very much. We are waiting for him to return to his original line. Concerning others, such as Nayif Hawatimah, in brief, he is an American train bearing a red flag — and you can publish that word for word. This is our assessment of him. At the moment our forces are united in the camps for their defense. It can be said that this unity was achieved because not one of those respectable leaders were present in Lebanon. Concerning other organizations, we have relations with brother Ahmad Jibril and there is cooperation between us....

[Al-Saqr] Are you ready to return to Fatah, the organization in which you grew up?

[Abu Nidal] I am certain and ready to attend a new general Fatah congress, formed by a 5-member preparatory committee named by agreement. Then I will be ready.

[Al-Saqr] Do you have their names?

[Abu Nidal] You want me to say their names? That might become a big scheme that the newspapers will talk about.

[Al-Saqr] In brief, how do you define the strategy of the Fatah Revolutionary Council and its philosophy on Palestinian action?

[Abu Nidal] Our program is the basic program of the Fatah movement and nothing else, except for the current technical developments, not political ones. The principles are stable and they should not be touched. We should develop the organization. They changed the principles. When we say that Palestine is Arab, this is a principle that cannot be touched. Liberation from the sea to the river is also a principle, then comes the means. If there are other means, we negotiate them, but the principles are stable. When we say that Kuwait is an independent Arab country which is bordered by this country from the north and by that from the south and so forth, we register a principled stance and any state that will recognize Kuwait recognizes it on this principle. You are looking at Abu Nidal and the Revolutionary Council as a new creation. Never. I used to come to Kuwait and they used to invite me into their houses and talk to me logically. What has changed? We are not ready to begin a revolutionary movement and end up as servants for the Americans. Let them try it and we will see whether they succeed. Brother Muhammad, you are a young man and will live longer than I, to the year 2000 or more. Brother Muhammad, you will say that there was a man named Abu Nidal and he was one of the Arab Karmathian outlaws and sought everywhere. At times the Libyans would receive him for a few days, at other times another side. Then brother Muhammad, you will probably write the editorial for *AL-QABAS* in 2035, saying that 35 years ago we talked about a certain subject and that we are still waiting for a solution. There is nothing called a solution, there is a temporary truce intended to realize imperialist gains and international interests. What is our strategy? Our strategy is that there is no settlement, just fighting, and a nation in conflict. This civil war will continue. Why do we want Egypt's return, for example? Do we want Egypt to realize a settlement for us or do we want it to help us fight? If we want Egypt for the settlement, that will do no good. It is there, but it will not contribute towards a settlement.

[Al-Saqr] Brother Abu Nidal, we are happy with this accidentally arranged talk. Coincidences are a hundred times better than a set date.

[Abu Nidal] Thank you.

[Al-Saqr] It was a happy occasion and we thank you for this meeting.

[Abu Nidal] It was a happy occasion for us too, and in reality I also wanted this meeting when I learned that you were here. We respect the *AL-QABAS* daily and its aware political line.

PLO Executive Committee Meeting Continues in Iraq

'Arafat Welcomes UK Decision

PM231613 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 23 Sep 85 p 1

[Qasim al-Samawi report: "'Arafat Tells *AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT*: Thatcher's Decision Is a Step Forward"]

[Text] Baghdad — The PLO Executive Committee began its meetings here yesterday evening. In a statement to *AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT* PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat welcomed Britain's decision to receive a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation in London in mid-October. He added that Thatcher's decision is a step forward and a boost for the agreement with Jordan. The Executive Committee, 'Arafat said, will discuss the political situation in the light of new developments at the Arab and international levels, the affairs of our people in the occupied territory and the ferocious Zionist onslaught they are facing, the affairs of our people in the Beirut and south Lebanon camps, and also what they are now being subjected to in Tripoli. In addition to that, he said, the Committee will also discuss Arab developments in the wake of the Casablanca summit conference and the committees formed by the conference to clear the Arab atmosphere before the next summit conference in Riyadh, in addition to a number of other military-educational, and political issues. 'Arafat had arrived in Baghdad at dawn yesterday. Other Executive Committee and PNC members have also arrived in Baghdad.

Baghdad Meetings

JN231750 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1645 GMT 23 Sep 85

[Text] The Palestinian command continued its meetings in Baghdad today with the participation of members of the PLO Executive Committee and the Fatah Central Committee as well as the PNC chairmanship. Our radio correspondent reported that the Palestinian command discussed the explosive situation in the occupied homeland, ways to bolster the steadfastness of our people there, and the escalation of confrontation of the Zionist occupation through various forms of popular and armed struggle.

The Palestinian command also discussed ways to confront the Zionist enemy's arbitrary practices and measures of oppression to check the escalation of Palestinian military operations and to contain the Palestinian popular upheaval. Our radio correspondent added that the Palestinian command also discussed in detail the situation in Lebanon and developments in the unjust Syrian regime's aggression against steadfast and militant Tripoli.

Our radio correspondent said that the Palestinian command will continue the meetings this evening to discuss other topics dealing with the latest political developments at the Arab and international levels.

AL-SHARQ Claims 'Arafat Visited Tripoli, Lebanon

NC240656 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0645 GMT 24 Sep 85

[Text] The pro-Syrian newspaper *AL-SHARQ* reports that Yasir 'Arafat arrived in Tripoli by sea on 17 September. It also reports that he met secretly with a number of Islamic Unification Movement leaders, including Shaykh Sa'id Sha'ban and Shaykh Hashim Minqarah. The paper adds that 'Arafat then left Tripoli by sea on 18 Setember.

PNC Speaker on Al-Qadhdhafi Contacts, Murphy's Visit

GF231714 Kuwait AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM in Arabic 22 Sep 85 p 17

[Interview with PNC Speaker Shaykh 'Abd al-Hamid al-Sa'ih by *AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM* correspondent Zuhdi al-Badri in Amman — date not given]

[Excerpts] [Al-Badri] Have the contacts held by Salah Khalaf, alias Abu Iyad, with Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi produced any results?

[Al-Sa'ih] Al-Qadhdhafi's stand on the PLO has not changed nor have his statements which he makes from time to time. In other words, while we appreciated Col al-Qadhdhafi's denunciation of the aggression against the Palestinians in their camps and thanked him for it, we see that he still moved in another direction. Thus, that is why we can say that Col al-Qadhdhafi's stand on the camps has had no effect on changing his position.

[Al-Badri] Al-Qadhdhafi has been attacking the PLO since 1980. Why?

[Al-Sa'ih] Al-Qadhdhafi has his own unique characteristics which are not common with anyone else and which are known to all those who work with them in politics. His stand on the PLO is known. The PLO tried to use his stand on the aggression against the camps to improve its relations with him on the basis of principles in an objective manner. But I regret to say that the contacts held by Abu Iyad and Abu al-Lutf [Faruq Qaddumi] have had no satisfactory results.

[Al-Badri] Washington denies that Richard Murphy's mission in the region failed. What is your view?

[Al-Sa'ih] The United States is trying to show that it is not against world peace. The fact is that by rejecting the PLO's proposals presented through Jordan, the United States is obstructing peace moves. We have announced more than once that the peace acceptable to us is one which will preserve our rights and regain our holy places and one in which we will be able to set up our state with Jerusalem as its capital. We have said that we will never accept capitulation, particularly to the enemy's demands, because it is not an Arab custom to accept humiliation. Almighty God also says: "Might is for God, his prophet, and the believers." [Koranic verse]

On the convocation of the PNC in Amman, Al-Sa'ih said: This issue is being discussed secretly until we decide where it will be held. Contacts with some organizations are under way to find out whether they want to rejoin the PNC.

[Al-Badri] Information indicates that Fatah has presented a memorandum to the PFLP and the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine [DFLP] to resume a dialogue to bring about reconciliation.

[Al-Sa'ih] I am not from Fatah and I do not know what Fatah is doing. I do not believe it has presented a memorandum, unless this memorandum is part of the contacts between Fatah and other organizations. Contacts between Fatah and these organizations, particularly the DFLP, have never stopped. This is probably one of the reasons behind not setting a date for the convocation of the PNC, hoping that things will crystallize. These contacts are continuing. I encourage and support these contacts because I hope they will restore Palestinian unity which will stave off any threats to the Palestinian issue and prevent more differences. I can say that secret and open contacts are continuing.

PLO Issues Statement on Tripoli Fighting

JN231930 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic
1645 GMT 23 Sep 85

[Text] A responsible Palestinian source has stated the following:

For the second consecutive week the city of Tripoli has been the target of an odious aggression. All kinds of heavy weapons, rockets, and shells are being used against innocent citizens — children, women, and old people — in the steadfast city. As a result of this barbaric aggression by agent militias connected to the Damascus regime and its repressive organs, and which are operating under the cover of the so-called Arab Democratic Party, more than 250,000 inhabitants of this steadfast city have been displaced and are aimlessly wandering about. Everyone knows that this party is a sectarian party and is an inseparable part of the organs of the Damascus regime which has given this sectarian monster a free hand in Lebanon.

While strongly denouncing and condemning this criminal and barbaric aggression whose objective is to carry out demographic changes in this Muslim city, the PLO and its command, currently meeting in Baghdad, urge the Arab and Islamic nation and appeal to all friends and honest and free men in the world to immediately and effectively take steps to halt the sectarian aggression against the city of Tripoli, the Muslim and militant city, and to decisively confront the continuing massacre against Lebanese citizens in this stoic city which has always been one of the bastions of Arab and Islamic struggle and which has supported and continues to support the Palestinian revolution and the Palestinian people's just struggle.

The attempt to subjugate this heroic city, humiliate its citizens, and massacre its children, women, and old people, not to mention its faithful and militant young men, is part of the dangerous scheme stemming from the conspiracy of sectarian partitioning and of segregating the population on sectarian bases, this time by criminal force. This endangers the unity of Lebanon's people, territory, and institutions and poses a threat to the entire Arab nation.

We reiterate our call to Arab and Muslim kings, leaders, and presidents to halt the odious massacres being committed not only in Tripoli but throughout all of Lebanon.

Our correspondent has learned that copies of the responsible source's statement have been sent to the ICO, the OAU, the Nonaligned Movement, the Arab League, and the United Nations so they may assume their humanitarian responsibilities toward the Lebanese citizens in the city of Tripoli.

Joint Forces Attack Zionist Military Position

JN231808 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic
1645 GMT 23 Sep 85

[Text] The heroes of the Palestinian-Lebanese national joint forces fired katyushas at a Zionist military position in the (Dayr Blis) area in the security zone in southern Lebanon yesterday. The position took a direct hit and several Zionist soldiers were either killed or wounded.

The Zionist enemy radio admitted the shelling but kept silent on its losses. The radio said that Zionist forces immediately carried out an extensive search campaign and shelled several nearby Lebanese villages.

BAHRAIN

AL-ADWA': U.K. Stand on PLO Delegation 'Positive'

GF210858 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0745 GMT 21 Sep 85

[From the press review]

[Excerpt] Manama, 21 Sep (WAKH) — In Bahrain, the weekly newspaper *AL-ADWA'* has welcomed Britain's approval to receive a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation which will be led by Jordanian Deputy Prime Minister 'abd al-Wahab al-Majli and will include PLO members Muhammad Milhim and Iliya Khuri as members.

In its editorial today, the newspaper says this step will break the stagnant initiative proposed by King Husayn to reach a peaceful settlement to the Palestinian cause and to compel the United States to take a meaningful step toward a peaceful settlement through dialogue with the Palestinians whom the issue concerns. The newspaper adds, however, that "we do not pin great hopes on the British step because the road to peace is as rough as that of war and that reaching an agreement in this direction is still very remote. At any rate, the British step constitutes an important positive development. Regardless of the size of this positive development, it is a step forward that will encourage the United States to soften to some degree its hard line stand on receiving a Jordanian-Palestinian delegation from the list of names which the PLO has offered."

In conclusion, the newspaper says that the British step should be followed by other steps. For Britain to actually contribute toward a settlement, it should abandon its demand that the PLO recognize UN Security Council resolution 242 and its addendums because it does not recognize the Palestinian people's right to self-determination and because this resolution has no validity and the period to which it was related has passed. This has been admitted by Lord Caradon, who drafted the resolution.

KUWAIT

Minister Denies Syrian Visit-U.S. Hostage Link

GF231450 Kuwait AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM in Arabic 22 Sep 85 pp 1, 21

[Text] In a statement to *AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM*, a senior security source has denied reports that the criminals who carried out the explosions at the two popular cafes in Al-Sharq and AL-Salimiyah have been arrested. The source also affirmed that there is no connection between the visit by Finance and Economy Minister Jasim al-Khurafi to Syria and the demand by the kidnappers of the Americans in Lebanon that Kuwait frees the prisoners who had connections with the treacherous explosions in Kuwait in 1983.

In a statement to *AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM*, Finance and Economy Minister al-Khurafi denied any connection between his visit to Syria and the kidnappers' demand. He emphasized that his talks with Syrian officials never dealt with this issue.

Protest to UN Over Iranian Ship Seizures

LD231630 Kuwait KUNA in English 1545 GMT 23 Sep 85

[Text] United Nations, Sept 23 (KUNA) — Kuwait has expressed displeasure at the Iranian authorities' interception, search and detention of a number of Kuwaiti and other commercial vessels in international waters and described the Iranian acts as "a flagrant violation of all international norms and conventions."

In a letter by Kuwait's deputy premier and foreign minister, Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad to the secretary-general Javier Perez de Cuellar released Monday, Shaykh Sabah warned that the Iranian acts "will lead to a dangerous escalation of the situation in the region, and that will have an adverse effect on all sincere efforts to end the conflict."

The letter which was delivered by Shaykh Sabah to the U.N. chief at a meeting Friday lists the Iranian violations against the Kuwaiti ships: *Ibn Shaheed* in July 1984, *Al-Muharaq* last June, *Al-Wattyah* and *Al-Massilah* this September.

The letter further refers to the detention by Iran of the Italian ship *Merzario Britania* and the Chinese ship *Jing Jiang* this month.

Shaykh Sabah informed the secretary-general that Kuwait had already contacted the Iranian authorities expressing displeasure at the incidents and calling on Tehran to put an end to its acts.

The Kuwaiti official also pointed to his government's contacts with the ambassadors in Kuwait of the five permanent members of the Security Council on these developments.

Shaykh Sabah expressed his confidence that the secretary-general "will join us in calling upon all states to shoulder their historic responsibilities and to expedite all efforts to put an end to those acts and practices."

He said if these acts continue, they "will undermine the foundations for security and stability in the region and the world at large."

Efforts to Diversify Oil-Reliant Economy

GF221134 Kuwait ARAB TIMES in English 21 Sep 85 p 13

[Text] Kuwait is trying to ease its once-buoyant, oil-reliant economy into a "soft landing" after failing to stop it sliding into a deepening recession. Shrinking oil markets have halved oil income over the past five years, and the five-year-old war between Iraq and Iran — whose southernmost battle front lies only 50 km away — has choked trade with those formerly thriving markets. Gulf war tensions, moreover, have sapped local business confidence. The country has also still to shake off a debt crisis caused by a spectacular stock market crash in 1982 which left $95 billion of post-dated cheques in default.

The government has tried to spend its way out of recession, boosting outlays on development in a bid to breath new life into ailing businesses. But this met with limited success.

Now, says the National Bank of Kuwait "emphasis has shifted towards ensuring a soft landing for the economy."

The economy measured by gross domestic product (GDP), shrank last year by 1.1 percent in real terms (after deducting for inflation) after 2.3 percent positive growth in 1983.

"Most economic indicators ... show the economic cycle is still on the downtrend, even when compared to the 1984 sluggish levels," the National Bank said in a recent review.

Kuwait's sluggish prospects are a far cry from the double-digit real growth enjoyed in the late 1970's, fuelled by spiralling crude oil prices. The country, whose 1.7 million people enjoy one of the world's highest per capita incomes — estimated by local bankers at $14,000 in 1984 — has immense resources. It owns around 10 percent of known world oil reserves, which would last it over 250 years at current production rates of 900,000 barrels a day agreed under self-imposed quotas set by the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC).

During the 1970' oil boom, it build up a nest-egg of some $75 billion in foreign reserves, next in size only to the overseas assets of Saudi Arabia.

Under a new five-year plan to 1990, the Central Bank said Kuwait aimed to diversify its economy and sources of income, develop local manpower, promote the private sector role in the economy, and streamline spending. But bankers say that a billion-dollar "safety net" recently unveiled for the country's banks indicated the first priority was to cushion the economy from more harm, and restructure it, before trying again to stimulate a revival.

Finance Minister Jasim Al-Khurafi said this week that the government, via the central bank had placed KD 350 million ($1.16 billion) with commercial banks to ease strains on their loan portfolios caused by the 1982 stock market crash.

The state, in a series of steps to try to resolve the crisis, had already watered down much of the debt. But a long slide in prices of shares and real estate has slashed the value of many debtors' assets, lodged as collateral with banks.

The Central Bank aid, in the form of low-interest deposits, would help banks to reschedule loans and greatly reduce the bad and doubtful debts on their books, bankers say.

The Central Bank had earlier mapped out a rescue package of KD 500 million ($1.66 billion) for banks and also troubled financial houses, subject to the government's go-ahead.

Bankers say a wholesale corporate shake-out is likely soon, noting Al-Khurafi has said he would report to the National Assembly in October on debt troubles of Kuwaiti firms. A study was under way, he said, to decide which ones might be declared bankrupt and to see if mergers could save others.

A Finance Ministry report in July showed there were then 20 Kuwaiti firms outside the financial sector in need of urgent help and another 12 needing medium-term aid, bankers say. The National Bank said latest official data available as of last month underlined pressures in key areas of the economy, and noted that:

- Crude oil output at 933,000 barrels a day in the second quarter, was 23 percent below the same period in 1984.

- Construction, a leading non-oil sector after financial services, suffered a 55 percent slump in project startups in the second quarter, compared with the same 1984 period.

- Imports, a key yardstick of demand in an economy which relies on imports for nearly all its consumer goods, fell 27 percent at the main Shuwaikh commercial port in the first quarter.

- The net issue of labour permits to foreign workers, who have made up over 75 percent of the work force since the oil boom, continues to slide after a 77 percent slump last year.

OMAN

Saudi, Qatari Naval Unit Arrive in Oman

GF231406 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1310 GMT 23 Sep 85

[Text] Muscat, 23 Sep (WAKH) — A number of naval units of the Saudi Royal Navy and Qatari Naval Forces arrived in Oman today. A ship of the Omani Sultan's Navy welcomed the visiting naval units prior to their arrival in Qabus port. It is expected that the Saudi and Qatari naval units will hold joint exercises with the Omani Sultan's Navy as part of the joint routine training programs to exchange expertise and raise the fighting capabilities of the GCC naval forces.

QATAR

Amir Receives Message From Mauritanian Leader

GF241136 Doha QNA in Arabic 1020 GMT 24 Sep 85

[Text] Doha, 24 Sep (QNA) — Amir of Qatar His Highness Shaykh Khalifah ibn Hamad Al Thani has received a written message from Mauritanian President Maayouiya Ould Sid Ahmed. The message was conveyed by Ahmed Ould Minnih, Mauritanian minister of foreign affairs and cooperation, during an audience with the amir. The message pertains to the means to bolster bilateral relations in the various fields, in addition to a number of issues of mutual interest.

SAUDI ARABIA

Thatcher Mideast Tour Linked to U.S. Initiatives

GF191410 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic
1130 GMT 19 Sep 85

["News Analyses" by Hamzah Muhsin al-Saqqaf]

[Text] British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's visits to Amman and Cairo represent a relative and limited development in the British stand on the Middle East crisis. The British stand has been, until recently, contained within a narrow framework of reservations with regard to positive participation in peace efforts and initiatives taken to achieve it. Through its prime minister and high-ranking officials at its Foreign Ministry, Britain has announced that it supports the Arab position in the Middle East crisis and the Arab initiative for a just peace. This can be considered as a noticebale development in the British stand, which has come about through Thatcher's visits to Egypt and Jordan.

In an attempt to show this development, the British prime minister stated she is prepared to meet a Jordanian-Palestinian delegation including PLO members on condition that they are not terrorists, as she put it. She said this at the conclusion of her visit to Cairo and on the eve of her departure for Amman. This narrow-minded Western view does not draw a line between patriotic and sacrificial work and terrorism, which she should realize is actually practiced by the Israeli occupiers.

Through her visit to the region, the British prime minister has broken the siege of reservations she imposed on her government's stand on the Middle East crisis. She has also bypassed the implications of the limited statements of the European countries, which do not go beyond recognizing the Palestinian people's rights and are not based on any positive moves to be made by them toward supporting these rights. However, this Thatcher tour has renewed the impression that the British stand is connected physically and strategically with the U.S. political wheel.

The British statements have become an echo of those made by U.S. circles. Thatcher spared the observer the effort of looking for a vital clue to confirm this trend when, at the beginning of her tour to the region, she stated that there is no progress on a British or even European initiative concerning peace efforts. She said that the United States is the qualified source for such progress. In fact, the British Government's current move in the Middle East is concomitant with the U.S. move and is similar to it in its dimensions and aims. The U.S. move was an introduction that encouraged Britain to take this step which has not gone beyond the political dimensions fo the Middle East crisis.

In light of such analysis, the Thatcher visits to Egypt and Jordan and the results that might ensue will be added to the list of accounts which have been opened by more than one U.S. envoy. The region and its crises await any breakthrough in the shape of a positive step permitted by Washington toward peace initiatives and efforts which have been strengthened by all what the Arabs have offered for peace. In the meantime, the West's protege friend continues the conflict at the expense of peace, Arab peace-lovers, and the Palestinian people's fate and future generations.

UAE

President Receives Mauritanian President's Message

GF231946 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1845 GMT 23 Sep 85

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 23 Sep (WAKH) — UAE President His Highness Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan has received a written message from Mauritanian President Maayouiya Ould Sid Ahmed Taya on means of expanding bilateral relations and on a number of issues of mutual interest. The message was conveyed to Shaykh Khalifah ibn Zayid, Abu Dhabi heir apparent and deputy supreme commander of the UAE Armed Forces, by Ahmed Ould Minnih, Mauritanian minister of foreign affairs and cooperation, during their meeting in Abu Dhabi today. The Mauritanian minister is currently visiting the UAE within the framework of his tour of a number of countries in the region.

Mauritanian Envoy Departs

GF240743 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0720 GMT 24 Sep 85

[Excerpt] Abu Dhabi, 24 Sep (WAKH) — Ahmed Ould Minnih, Mauritanian minister of foreign affairs and cooperation, left Abu Dhabi today for Doha at the conclusion of a 2-day visit to the UAE as part of his current tour to a number of the region's countries.

PDRY

Ethiopian Leader Concludes 3-Day Visit

GF231412 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 23 Sep 85

[Excerpt] Comrade Mengistu Haile Mariam, secretary general of the Workers Party of Ethiopia Central Committee, chairman of the Provisional Military Administrative Council, and commander in chief of the Ethiopian Armed Forces, left Aden this morning after a 3-day visit to the PDRY. During his visit he held meetings with Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee and chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium.

YSP Chairman Receives Message From GDR's Honecker

GF231638 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 23 Sep 85

[Excerpt] Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee and chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium, has received a written message from Comrade Erich Honecker, SED secretary general and chairman of the GDR Council of State. The message deals with relations between the two friendly parties and countries and the means of developing them, as well as a number of issues of mutual concern.

During a meeting with Comrade Guenther Neumann, GDR ambassador in Aden, who conveyed the message, the brother secretary general hailed the high level of struggle relations between our country and the GDR. He affirmed that these relations are strong and serve the common struggle against imperialism, Zionism, and reactionism. He hailed the aid the GDR has offered and continues to give in various fields in order to help enhance the living conditions of our people.

Lutfi Discusses Mideast Peace, Mubarak's U.S. Visit

NC231634 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1553 GMT 23 Sep 85

[Text] Cairo, 23 Sep (MENA) — Prime Minister Dr 'Ali Lutfi has emphasized that the projected meeting between British Foreign Minister Sir Geoffrey Howe and a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation, which will include two PLO members, is considered as a positive step by Britain. He added that British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher is beginning to share the Egyptian-Jordanian view of the rights of the Palestinian people.

In an interview with the BBC today, Dr Lutfi expressed his hope that the United States will take another step forward and will continue its efforts to overcome all problems obstructing the establishment of a comprehensive and just peace in the Middle East. He pointed out that the United States had contributed to the conclusion of the Egyptian-Israeli peace agreement.

Dr Lutfi said he hoped that the Egyptian-U.S. summit between President Husni Mubarak and President Ronald Reagan in Washington today will result in an agreement or a promise by the United States to give more attention and encouragement to the peace process in the Middle East.

In his statement to the BBC, Dr Lutfi emphasized that the United States can greatly help boost the peace process in the region, noting that the names of the Palestinian members in the joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation must not constitute an obstacle to achieving this goal. In this connection, Lutfi praised the agreement signed by Jordan and the PLO on 11 February regarding their joint attempts to enhance peace efforts. He affirmed that Egypt will abide by all the agreements it has signed and that it seeks to achieve a just and comprehensive peace in the Middle East.

Lutfi Receives Congratulations From Shim'on Peres

NC231541 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1458 GMT 23 Sep 85

[Text] Cairo, 23 Sep (MENA) — Prime Minister Dr 'Ali Lutfi received Moshe Sason, the Israeli ambassador in Cairo in his office today. Sason conveyed to him a congratulatory message from Israeli Prime Minister Shim'on Peres on the occasion of his appointment to a new post.

Israeli-Led Group Arrested for Filming Military Units

GF211102 Kuwait AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM in Arabic 19 Sep 85 pp 1, 21

[Text] Egyptian security sources have told *AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM* that three Americans and an Israeli were arrested on Saturday while taking pictures of military installations on the Cairo-Suez military road. The Israeli — who was later found to be working as a researcher in the Zionist academic center in Cairo — was wearing colonel-rank fatigues similar to those worn by Egyptian Air Defense officers. He was accompanying the three Americans who were wearing U.S. uniforms [as publsihed]. He facilitated their entry into some air defense units on the Cairo-Suez military road using a forged military identity card which said that he was a colonel in the Air Defense Forces Command. He also showed the military security bodies a false letter which stated that he was accompanying a U.S. media information delegation that was gathering propaganda material for a film on sophisticated weapons and equipment which the Air Defense Forces acquired recently.

The sources added that the three Americans took pictures of air defense systems for 3 hours while commanders of the military units they visited consulted with the Air Defense Command headquarters. During these contacts suspicions were conveyed on the media mission and the colonel who was accompanying the mission and disguised as a representative of the Forces' command.

It was a great surprise when the Air Defense Command told the commanders of the units of the false identity of the colonel. The three Americans and the Zionist — who wore the uniform of an Egyptian Army officer — were detained and later transferred by military intelligence and security forces to the military prison for interrogation. The three Americans admitted that they were members of an American musical band that been had entertaining at first class hotels for 4 months. The Zionist researcher admitted that he recruited them to take pictures of Egyptian military positions, particularly units of the air defense system, in return for $40,000 to be paid after the completion of 12 hours of videotaping of military positions which he specified. They also admitted that the Zionist researcher provided them with the cameras they used and that he instructed them on how to use them 2 days before they started their photographic mission. They said that they were surprised to see the Zionist researcher dressed in the uniform of an Egyptian officer on the day they set out to take photographs. The three Americans and the Zionist are still under military custody. The state and the public security have been apprised of the incident.

AL-AHALI on 'Espionage' by Israeli Academic Center

PM171325 Cairo AL-AHALI in Arabic 11 Sep 85 p 1

[Unattributed report: "Egyptian Security Circles: 'Israeli Academic Center Spying on Egypt' "]

[Text] Security reports say that (Gabriel Kharburg), head of the Israeli Academic Center in Cairo, and a number of his aides are engaged in recruiting some of the Egyptians working in sensitive government posts in order to supply the Israeli Academic Center with information relating to the military and economic situations, allegedly in order to be used as a guide in preparing the Center's scientific reports and analysis regarding Egyptian society with a view to ironing out the difficulties involved in the normalization of Egyptian-Israeli relations.

Egyptian security reports stress that the gathering of economic and military information by the head of the Israeli Academic Center through Egyptians working in highly sensitive posts is a kind of intelligence and espionage and constitutes a violation of and a serious deviation from the scientific purpose for which the Zionist academy was established in Egypt.

The security reports also reveal that there is some sort of a link and dealings between Israeli intelligence, Mosad, and the Israeli

Academy in Cairo which submits special biweekly reports to Israeli intelligence that are different from its scientific analysis and reports, which it prepares only as a camouflage. This means that the Israeli Academy's mission is not scientific but primarily intelligence.

AL-AHALI has learned that the Egyptian security authorities are now investigating whether the head of the Israeli academy has any connection with the Zionist spy network uncovered recently, whose diplomatic members were deported in compliance with U.S. pressure.

The security organs, in their reports on the suspect role the head of the Israeli Academy is playing, demand the immediate expulsion of the head of the Israeli Academic Center from Egypt as persona non grata.

NDP Leader Rules Out 'Military Action' Against Libya

NC231221 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1130 GMT 23 Sep 85

[Text] Kuwait, 23 Sep (MENA) — NDP Secretary General Dr Yusuf Wali has reiterated that Egypt will not take military action against Libya. Egypt does not attack its neighbors, he declared, adding that the current disputes between the two sisterly countries should be settled by their leaders. Dr Wali told the *AL-ANBA'* paper that Egypt would gladly restore relations with its Arab sisters, but that the ball is in their court. Egypt is part of the Arab world, and will respond favorably to any overtures from other Arabs.

He also said that Egypt's opposition is perfectly free to express its positions on national and regional issues. It is still premature to talk about the restoration of Egyptian-Algerian relations, he noted. Finally, Wali told *AL-ANBA'* that the policy of the new Egyptian Government will be revealed in a government statement at the next session of the People's Assembly.

AL-AHRAM on Issues To Be Raised by Mubarak in U.S.

PM231524 Cairo AL-AHRAM International Edition in Arabic 23 Sep 85 p 1

[Hamdi Fu'ad report: "Mubarak, Reagan Will Today Discuss Revival of Middle East Peace Efforts"]

[Excerpts] Washington — Important talks between President Husni Mubarak and U.S. President Ronald Reagan will begin today at 1400 Washington time, 2000 Cairo time.

AL-AHRAM's correspondent has learned that Egypt will resume its efforts to persuade the U.S. Administration to remove its obstacles and drop its preconditions for dialogue with a Jordanian-Palestinian delegation, particularly those connected with the names of the delegation members and the insistence that the second step be guaranteed before the first step could be taken.

Citing a responsible Egyptian source, *AL-AHRAM*'s correspondent says that President Mubarak will ask President Reagan to speed up the process of starting the dialogue with a Jordanian-Palestinian joint delegation without any prior conditions because such a step is necessary before expanded negotiations could be started within an international framework.

Egypt will also ask the U.S. Administration to cut the interest rate on the military debts due since last year on the grounds that all the new sums are now given as nonrepayable grants, and so the 11 percent rate should be cut by half. Egypt will also request the same treatment as Israel in connection with loans, aid, and grants, pointing out the importance of increasing these in 1987.

AL-AHRAM's correspondent has further learned that Egypt will stress to Washington the importance of U.S. cooperation with Jordan in all domains particularly since President Reagan said in his statement the day before yesterday that Egypt and Jordan share the U.S. sincere efforts for peace and that the three states are working together to bring an end to the Iraq-Iran war.

In his statement on the topics he will discuss with President Mubarak, President Reagan emphasized the following points:

1. That a strong, secure, and prosperous Egypt is an asset for peace and stability in the Middle East.

2. That the peace process will be the main topic in his talks with President Mubarak and King Husayn.

3. That President Mubarak has proved that peace between the Arabs and Israel is possible.

4. That Egypt is at present facing economic difficulties and some threats on its borders and that the United States will do everything it can to help Egypt meet these challenges because it realizes Egypt's part as the cornerstone of peace and stability.

An Egyptian responsible source has stated that President Reagan's statements confirm his desire to renew and revive his initiative to pave the way for a resumption of the peace efforts.

AL-AHALI on Mubarak's U.S. Visit, Western Pressure

PM231252 Cairo AL-AHALI in Arabic 18 Sep 85 p 1

[Editorial: "Western Pressures Increase, Cairo Responds"]

[Text] We wonder what justification is there for the president to visit Washington twice in less than 6 months to meet with President Reagan, that is if the first visit did not fail to achieve its objectives.

There is nothing new to justify the president's successive visits to Washington. The claim that the sole purpose now is participation in the UN 40th anniversary celebrations is just not convincing. How could we claim that the president is going to the United States mainly to deliver a speech at the UN General Assembly at a time when Egypt's debts stand at $44 billion and when the economic crisis is the state's main preoccupation and the deciding factor in the Cabinet reshuffle?

Egyptian-Western meetings have recently intensified, with Genscher and Thatcher visiting Cairo and Husni Mubarak visiting Washington, Paris, Madrid, and Lisbon. There can be no doubt that these successive meetings are more a reflection of Western concern about Egypt's future as a pillar of Western strategy in the Middle East than a reflection of hope for progress on the Palestinian question. Murphy's recent tour of the region has demonstrated that Israel still firmly and unequivocally vetoes every more within the context of the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement.

The West is now exploiting Egypt's mounting debts and stifling economic crisis to esclate its pressures to make sure that Cairo would not abandon the role assigned to it within the West's strategy in the region. It is regrettable that all signs confirm that Egypt is responding to these pressures, submitting to Western terms in the face of its economic crisis, and willing to grant the IMF's requests for the abolition of subsidies and for higher prices, with all the grave dangers of pursuing such a policy.

Cairo's increasing subservience to the West will not ease Egypt's economic crisis or achieve any degree of stability. In fact it warns of the worse consequences and a more serious government crisis.

AL-AHALI on Nation's Debts, Proposed Remedies

PM231250 Cairo AL-AHALI in Arabic 18 Sep 85 p 1

[Muhammad Hamid report: "*AL-AHALI* Exclusively Publishes Real Figures on Egypt's Debts"]

[Excerpt] *AL-AHALI* has learned that Egypt's military debts — which the responsible authorities are anxious not to reveal — constitute half of Egypt's foreign debts. It has also learned that a report submitted recently by Economy Minister Dr Sultan Abu 'Ali to the prime minister gave the real figures for Egypt's debts, showing them to be more than the figures announced by the Egyptian authorities and the IMF.

According to official estimates Egypt's debts last April stood at $44.3 billion, of which 47.3 percent were military debts and 52.7 percent civilian debts. Government circles expect foreign debts to reach their maximum this year with military debts reaching their maximum next year. In view of the drop in Egypt's foreign currency resources the economy ministry has proposed the following:

1. Allocation of 10 percent of the oil revenues as reserves for meeting foreign debts "with an annual minimum of $100 million."

2. A. 10 percent cut in the fiscal budget allocations for consumer goods, particularly now that the private sector has been permitted to import some of these goods.

3. Development of the industrial sector to ensure that the revenue from manufactured goods at least covers the production requirements for that sector. That would free the budget cash allocations which could then be diverted to other purposes.

4. Allocation of a certain percentage of the military production income for the repayment of military debts.

5. Adding no new short-term loans in the coming period.

6. Restricting foreign borrowing to production projects provided the terms are easier, the rate of interest lower, and the grace and repayment periods longer.

Planes Attack Khark Island 24 September

JN240913 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 0844 GMT 24 Sep 85

[Unscheduled announcement]

[Text] A military spokesman has stated the following: In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. In implementation of the great Iraqi people's will and their political leadership's decision to destroy the pillars of the Iranian economy and the scientific institutions used by the Iranian rulers in their aggression on our people and nation, the brave hawks of the air launched a determined, devastating attack at 0810 [0410 GMT] today on the remaining utilities and equipment on Khark Island, so that the destruction of this island, which was the source of livelihood for the ruling evil men in Iran, will be total and final, and so that the fire ignited by the brave hawks of the air will continue ablaze, indicating the tyrannical clique's crushing defeat by Iraqi power and pride.

Having carried out their duty, the hawks of the air returned with their planes safely and in God's care, carrying more good tidings for their people.

Great Iraq has warned them through its great leader that they have only one of two choices: peace, or destruction of the remainingmeans of aggression. This is our continuous, decisive reply to the foul language, which is the only thing in which the Tehran rulers excel. It is our legitimate right to strike everywhere. We will continue to exercise this right against every vital utility until the war ends and those misguided by their ambitions, hatred, and suspect links return to their senses. We seek help from God, for He is our noblest and best supporter. [Dated]24 September 1985

Reportage on Combat Operations in War With Iran

JN231648 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1600 GMT 23 Sep 85

[Communique No 1,967 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 23 September]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassioante. In order to keep our Iraq strong, powerful, and proud, our victorious armies are continuing combat operations in all the operational theaters against the forces of the tyrant clique, which has been bewitched by Satan and has deviated from the path of peace.

The following is a summary of operations for last night and today:

1. An enemy force estimated by an infantry regiment attempted to advance toward our forward units' positions in the II Army Corps central sector, but our brave soldiers confronted it with intrepid hearts and heavy fire, burning the ground beneath the feet of the invaders a long distance from our positions. They inflicted many casualties. They killed 28, wounded others, and forced the rest to flee. The situation was finally decided in favor of our brave men.

In the same sector, one of our forward units launched a crushing attack on enemy positions opposite our forces. After a resolute offensive, our men occupied and completely destroyed enemy positions, killing or wounding 25 enemy soldiers. Our forces burned a number of ammunition dumps and seized a quantity of hardware and various pieces of equipment. The unit returned safely to our positions. Blessed are the strong men, the soldiers of truth and freedom.

2. One of our combat patrols in the East Tigris VI Army Corps sector attacked enemy positions and seized an enemy raft, bringing it to our positions. The patrol returned safely after seizing a medium-caliber machine gun, two RPG-7 launchers, and a number of pieces of equipment. They also captured one Kalashnikov rifle. All these weapons were serviceable. Our men destroyed one ammunition dump at another site in the same sector.

3. In a bold operation, one of our patrols in the V Army Corps northern sector captured one enemy soldier. They also set one vehicle and one ammunition dump on fire and returned safely to base. Another patrol in the same sector brought from no-man's-land one (Strella) launcher, three light-caliber launchers, one 81-mm mortar, one 60-mm mortar, and one GC rifle the enemy had abandoned in a previous battle.

4. Our forces in the East Maysan IV Army Corps sector sighted a group of enemy personnel opposite them. They opened artillery and mortar fire and inflicted casualties on them before they were forced to flee.

5. Our brave units in the I Army Corps northern sector destroyed four vehicles, killed four men, captured one, and destroyed four infantry positions, killing or wounding their occupants.

6. In the East Basra III Army Corps sector, our units opened artillery and mortar fire on enemy forward positions, destroying one ammunition dump and several infantry positions.

7. Escaping the tyranny of the evil Iranian ruling clique and seeking safety and peace, new groups of Iranian soldiers sought refuge with our forward units. They were safely evacuated to the rear.

8. The clique of evil and tyranny shelled Mandali suburbs with long-range artillery.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 23 September 1985

'Aziz Meets Foreign Ministers at UN Session

JN240846 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0707 GMT 24 Sep 85

[Text] New York, 24 Sep (INA) — Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, resumed talks with foreign ministers participating in the 40th session of the UN General Assembly in New York last night.

Tariq 'Aziz met separately last night with French External Relations Minister Roland Dumas and Errol Mahabir, Trinidad and Tobago external affairs minister. The talks centered on ways to promote bilateral relations and reviewed the latest Middle East developments. Views were also exchanged on the UN General Assembly agenda.

Tariq 'Aziz met earlier with the GDR and Italian foreign ministers and discussed bilateral relations with them.

U.S. Trade, S&T Cooperation Agreement Signed

JN240717 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0617 GMT 24 Sep 85

[Text] Baghdad 24 Sep (INA) — Iraqi-U.S. economic talks concluded here last night. The Iraqi side to the talks was led by Dr Qubays Sa'id 'Abd al-Fattah, Trade Ministry under secretary for foreign trade, while James Kelly, U.S. deputy assistant secretary of commerce, led the U.S. side.

The two sides signed an agreement on trade and cooperation in the economic, scientific, and technical spheres which aims at promoting bilateral relations in trade, industry, agriculture, energy, funding, the transfer of technology, communications, and health.

Joint minutes were signed, which included several proposals and recommendations aimed at promoting bilateral economic and technological relations as well as increasing and diversifying trade.

U.S. Delegation Departs 24 Sep

JN240942 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0825 GMT 24 Sep 85

[Text] Baghdad, 24 Sep (INA) — James Kelly, U.S. deputy assistant secretary of commerce, and his delegation left Baghdad at dawn today following a 4-day visit to Iraq.

During the visit, Kelly held talks with the Iraqi side on promoting bilateral relations in the economic, scientific, and technical fields which resulted in signing an agreement and joint minutes in these fields.

Hungarian Cooperation Talks Begin 21 Sep

JN211546 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic
1500 GMT 21 Sep 85

[Text] Talks between the delegation of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party under Comrade Sa'd Qasim Hammudi, chief of the Foreign Relations Bureau of the National Command, and the delegation of the Hungarian Socialist Workers Party under Comrade Dr Josef Gyorke, deputy director of the International Relations Department of the party's Central Committee, began this morning.

The two sides stressed the importance of developing the relations between the two parties, coordinating their stands, and renewing the cooperation agreement between them.

At the beginning of the meeting, Comrade Hammudi explained Iraq's peaceful stands and the just basis which President Saddam Husayn presented for a comprehensive peaceful settlement of the Iraq-Iran dispute.

The Hungarian side extended an invitation to a Ba'th Party delegation to visit Hungary this year to sign an agreement renewing cooperation between the two parties.

Ba'th Official Meets Delegation

JN221135 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1055 GMT 22 Sep 85

[Text] Baghdad, 22 Sep (INA) — Na'im Haddad, Ba'th Party National Command member, met with a delegation of the Hungarian Socialist Workers Party led by Comrade Dr Josef Gyorke, deputy director of the International Relations Department of the party's Central Committee. During the meeting, the two sides discussed political, economic, and cultural relations between Iraq and Hungary and ways to promote relations of friendship and cooperation between the two friendly peoples and countries.

Na'im Haddad reviewed the developments of the war imposed on Iraq and its peaceful initiatives to end the conflict with Iran.

Gyorke said his country welcomes and values Iraq's peaceful initiatives and the importance of halting the war in view of the heavy losses in life and equipment. He reiterated Hungary's support for the Palestinian cause under PLO leadership.

Communications Minister Meets YAR Official

JN230949 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0908 GMT 23 Sep 85

[Text] Baghdad, 23 Sep (INA) — 'Abd al-Jabbar 'Abd al-Rahim, minister of transport and communications, met with Muhammad al-'Arshi, YAR Ministry of Communications under secretary, and his delegation here today.

During the meeting, they discussed activating and promoting bilateral cooperation, as well as training YAR technical cadres in the institutes and establishments of the Iraqi Ministry of Transport and Communications.

Muhammad al-'Arshi, YAR Ministry of Communications under secretary, arrived in Baghdad last night leading a delegation on talks with officials in the Ministry of Communications and Transport on promoting cooperation between the two fraternal countries in communications.

Ramadan Chairs Meeting on Trade, Imports

JN231732 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic
1500 GMT 23 Sep 85

[Text] Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and first deputy prime minister, this morning chaired an expanded meeting of the Committee for Organizing Trade and the Permanent Committee for Drafting Foreign Trade Plans for the Year 1986, to discuss the importation plan for the socialist, mixed, and private sectors for the coming year.

During the meeting, the first deputy prime minister gave his directives on earmarking money for importing raw materials and for the requirements for industrial and agricultural production to serve the development of the national economy and to pave the way for foreign trade to play an effective role in increasing production and upgrading and developing its quality.

Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and first deputy prime minister, visited the Ministry of Trade this morning. He held a meeting with Hasan 'Ali, RCC member and trade minister. Also attending were Finance Minister Hisham Hasan Tawfiq, Awqaf and Religious Affairs Minister 'Abdallah Fadil, Trade Ministry under secretaries, the general secretary of the Committee for Organizing Trade, and several department heads of the Trade Ministry.

During the meeting, they discussed drafting the foreign trade plan for 1986 regarding imports. The first deputy prime minister stressed the need to give priority to importing commodities and production requirements for the industrial and agricultural sectors, to exploit the production potential of various national economy sectors, and to meet the requirements of local consumption.

Editorial Warns Iran Against Kuwait 'Adventure'

JN191547 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1457 GMT 19 Sep 85

[Text] Baghdad, 19 Sep (INA) — Iraq has warned the Iranian rulers against embarking on any reckless adventure against Kuwait. In its editorial today, *AL-THAWRAH*, the mouthpiece of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, said that if the Iranian rulers embark on such an adventure Iraq will make them pay a very costly price.

The paper affirmed that the Iranian rulers — who have confirmed in action and words that their target is not only Iraq, but the entire Arab nation and land — will be making a fataland destructive mistake if they ever imagine that they can isolate Kuwait and achieve their evil expansionist objectives and intentions against this fraternal Arab country.

The paper said that Kuwait's security is Iraq's security, and is an inseparable part of pan-Arab security. The paper concluded itseditorial by affirming that the Iranian rulers, who insist on continuing their aggression against the Arab nation, will continue to fumble in their bitter defeats and are fast approaching complete collapse and final defeat.

'Further Destruction' of Iranian Economy Viewed

JN210743 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0620 GMT 21 Sep 85

[Text] Baghdad, 21 Sep (INA) — The official Iraqi paper *AL-JUMHURIYAH* has affirmed that Iraq has the means to prevent Iran and anyone who might help it from putting out the fires blazing at the Khark Island installations.

The paper says in today's editorial: The destruction of Khark Island is not Iraq's only means to force the Iranian rulers to seethe truth that the continuation of the war is not in their interest or the interest of Iran and its people, and that Iraq is the stronger party whether the war continues or not.

AL-JUMHURIYAH says: There are also the pillars of the Iranian economy and other vital targets which Iraq can destroy. If the destruction of the Khark Island installations deprives the Iranian rulers of 90 percent of the hard currency they use to cover their military purchases and other commodities and services and places them face to face with bankruptcy, the destruction of the pillars of the Iranian economy, which took them many years to build, would mean total ruin for Iran for an indefinite time.

The paper affirms that the destruction of Khark Island affords Iran another opportunity for peace. The paper concludes: No matter how devastating the blow was to the Iranian economy, future destruction of the pillars of the Iranian economy would be evenmore ruinous than what happend to Khark Island.

Crown Prince Discusses PLO Accord, Peace Efforts

JN191112 Amman Domestic Service in English 1000 GMT 19 Sep 85

[Text] His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hasan, president of the Board of Trustees of the Arab Thought Forum, said today that Jordan is continuing to exert efforts for achieving peace and stability in the area.

In an inaugural speech at today's seminar on Arab-European dialogue, his royal highness said that Jordan's main concern is the destiny of the Arab people under the yoke of occupation. He said the Israeli measures in the occupied areas are aimed at annexing the Arab lands gradually, threatening the Arab identity of these areas.

Referring to the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement, his royal highness said His Majesty King Husayn had emphasized at the Casablanca summit the importance of this agreement, which represents the last chance to save the occupied areas. His royal highness spoke about the European role and said that the European economic group had adopted a positive stand toward the Palestinian people's rights. He said that prosperity in Europe will be consolidated in the long run if stability prevails in the Middle East area.

Foreign Minister Departs for UN Session

JN230743 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 23 Sep 85 p 1

[Text] Amman — Foreign Minister Tahir al-Masri left Amman yesterday for New York to take part in the meetings of the UN General Assembly. The main topic on the agenda of the meetings will be the Palestinian cause, in addition to Middle East developments.

Al-Masri will hold meetings with a number of foreign ministers who will attend these meetings, and the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement will be the focus of these meetings.

Al-Qasim Returns From Talks With Saudi Minister

JN221207 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 22 Sep 85

[Text] Marwan al-Qasim, chief of the Royal Hashemite Court, returned to Amman this morning after conveying two messages from His Majesty King Husayn to His Majesty Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id of Oman and His Highness UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan al Nuhayyan. The messages dealt with the current Arab situation and the efforts aimed at clearing the Arab atmosphere in implementing the resolutions of the emergency Casablanca summit, and in anticipation of achieving unity of Arab ranks and bolstering the unity of the joint Arab action.

Marwan al-Qasim met with Saudi Foreign Minister His Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal in Salalah city in the Sultanate of Oman yesterday. They exchanged views on the results of the Jeddah Arab meetings and on the latest developments in the Arab and international arenas. They also discussed the strong fraternal relations between the two fraternal countries and ways to promote and bolster them within the framework of the existing coordination between the leaderships of the two fraternal kingdoms.

The Jordanian and Saudi sides appreciated the British stand announced by British Prime Minister Mrs Margaret Thatcher at the end of her visit to the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, a standrepresented by the British Government's decision to receive a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation in London next month. Al-Qasim affirmed that Jordan is looking forward to achieving such a meeting between the joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation and both the United States and the Soviet Union.

Newspapers View Thatcher Visit, Press Conference

JN210640 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 21 Sep 85

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "A Great Achievement for Jordanian Diplomacy," *AL-DUSTUR* writes: Jordanian diplomacy attained a very important political achievement yesterday when British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher announced at the end of her visit to Jordan yesterday her country's readiness to receive a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation and to arrange a meeting between the delegation and British Foreign Secretary Geoffrey Howe.

Such a British step, whose importance is doubled because it was announced in Jordan after prolonged talks between Mrs Thatcher and His Majesty King Husayn, is very significant and constitutes an important turning point in the British political stand, which has long been characterized by strong reservations toward any contacts with the PLO.

AL-DUSTUR states: With Britain's announcement of its intention to receive a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation, all the EEC countries have presented basic political support for the march toward just and permanent peace. The Jordanian- Palestinian agreement consitutes the key to this march and the basic groundwork to intensify all Arab and international efforts. The positive British step will have great repercussions on many political levels in Europe, the United States, and Israel.

AL-DUSTUR continues: Such a British diplomatic turning point will certainly remove the last defense lines behind which the traditional U.S. stand was fortified in its opposition to any kind of contact with the PLO. This British turning point will also leave the United States completely isolated if it continues with its unjustified and unacceptable stand toward the PLO while the whole world holds dialogues with its representatives and receives them in its capitals directly or through joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegations.

AL-DUSTUR concludes: As we record with pride this great achievement for Jordanian diplomacy, which follows the directives of His Majesty King Husayn and firm national and pan-Arab principles, we hope that this step will be followed by similar steps, particularly by the United States, in order to open the path to a just and permanent peace, to defuse the dangerous situation in this delicate region, to remove ghosts of war and tension, and to achieve progress and prosperity.

Under the headline "Initial Comment on Thatcher's Press Conference," *AL-RA'Y* states: In her press conference yesterday, Mrs Margaret Thatcher announced a British step toward holding a dialogue between a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation and the British foreign secretary next month. She described this step as significant and expressed hope that the United States will follow suit. In another development, the British prime minister did not deny the importance of an international framework in searching for a solution to the problem. However, she said the form of that framework has not yet been crystallized by Britain and the United States.

AL-RA'Y continues: The step announced by Thatcher does not lack political significance. But at the same time the step does not limit the interferences related to selecting the Palestinians participating in the dialogue. It is an unopposed selection of Palestinians which Britain considers as qualified for dialogue on the basis that those persons condemn terrorism.

We should remind everyone that the PLO is a resistance organization and not a terrorist one. It is like the European resistance organizations that confronted Nazi occupation during World War II. Therefore, all the personages nominated by the PLO for dialogue are qualified for it. Classifying Palestinians on the basis that one condemns terrorism while another does not is merely an excuse to interfere in selecting Palestinians for dialogue.

The international framework, which was accepted by Britain and the United States to solve the Palestinian problems and whose form has not yet been crystallized by them, is so clear and simple that its crystallization cannot be delayed. This is because the suggested international conference, including the permanent members of the Security Council and all parties to the conflict, is the suitable form for the international framework. We must assert here that a real solution cannot be achieved by excluding the USSR from the international framework, because it is one of the two superpowers in the world, regardless of the competition between the two camps.

AL-RA'Y concludes: In any case, an accurate assessment of Mrs Thatcher's visit requires time and waiting for the reaction that will be created in the U.S. arena. The assessment of the visit will also be based on the Israeli aggressors' early rejection of the Thatcher initiative and the stand the European community adopt toward Israeli intransigence.

Under the headline "More Is Required From Britain," *SAWT AL-SHA'B* states: Because Britain has a special relationship with the Middle East countries and peoples, those peoples expect Britain to play a more active and effective role toward European countries in particular, and the United States and the world in general. And because Britain's relationship with the people in the Middle East, particularly the Palestinian people, is historical and distinguished, logic says that Britain should play a distinguished role to alleviate the fever of fumbling in the Palestinian cause — the cause of the afflicted people, whom Britain contributed to putting on the path of pains, a path whose end seems to be drawing near.

SAWT AL-SHA'B continues: As we welcome the statements made by Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher in her press conference in Aqaba yesterday, in which she announced Britain's readiness to receive a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation, we expect this step to be the beginning of other consecutive steps.

SAWT AL-SHA'B states: In Cairo Thatcher warned about the serious results of the failure of the Jordanian-Palestinian initiative to solve the Middle East problem. In her meeting with journalists in Aqaba yesterday, she also asserted the need to benefit from the positive steps that have been achieved so far. She also asserted that there is not much time for hesitation and maneuvering.

SAWT AL-SHA'B concludes: We hope this clear understanding of the situation in the Middle East will become the understanding that moves the thinking of officials in Washington and European capitals. Peace in the Middle East is necessary not only for the people in the region, but also for the people in Europe and the United States and for their vital interests in the region.

U.S., Israeli Reaction Examined

JN230729 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 23 Sep 85

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "Contrary to the Entire World," *AL-DUSTUR* states: Among the postive world reactions to the British step represented by Margaret Thatcher's announcement of her government's readiness to receive a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation, the Israeli reaction came, as all the observers expected, filled with the rejection and political arrogance that have characterized the various Israeli governments regarding peace efforts in the region.

AL-DUSTUR states: As Thatcher announced the stand which showed moral and political courage amid signs of real opportunity to achieve tangible progress on the path toward just and permanent peace in the Middle East, the Peres-Shamir government, the true heir of Begin's policies and intransigent stands, insisted on remaining faithful to this legacy, which is filled with extremism, racism, and hostility to peace.

AL-DUSTUR continues: If such an unsurprising Israeli stand, which greatly harmonizes with the Zionist philosphy based on the principle of military superiority, exporting wars, expansion, occupation, and imposing the fait accompli policy, is considered a natural outcome of that country's policies and philosophy that are hostile to peace, the U.S. reaction, which came from U.S. State Department circles yesterday, is the one that causes astonishment and raises big questions on the reality and essence of the intentions of this superpower, which still presents itself as a mediator to solve the Middle East crisis.

AL-DUSTUR adds: The lukewarm and reserved reaction shown by the United States toward the step of its first ally in Europe and the country with which its foreign policies are in great harmony, shows a stand that is stubbornly completely biased toward Israel's policies, which reject every glimmer of hope of achieving progress on the path toward peace in the Middle East.

AL-DUSTUR concludes: Jordan, which together with the PLO presented a practical option to achieve a just and permanent peace in the region and which received support and encouragement from many countries in the world, believes more than ever before that the consequences of wasting such an opportunity to break the stalemate in the regional situation are the responsibility of the United States, which has become the final defender of the intransigent Israeli stand not only through a flow of financial and military aid, but also by providing complete political cover to continue its rejection of peace initiatives and every attempt to acheive security and stability in the region.

Under the headline "The Israeli Campaign in the Face of Facts," *SAWT AL-SHA'B* states: It was not surprising that Israel launched a large-scalecampaign against the British decision to receive the joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation and to supply Jordan with defensive weapons. This is because these two decisions are completely contrary to the aggressive political and military strategy of the Israeli entity's dealing with the Middle East conflict. The British agreement on receiving the joint delegation undermines the continued Israeli attempts to cancel the Palestinian role from the Middle East peace equation and to prevent other countries from dealing with the PLO as the legitimate representative of the Palestinian people in the sought-after peace process.

SAWT AL-SHA'B adds: The British decision asserts the independent role of the EC in tackling international issues. This independent role is represented by the support granted by many European countries to the Jordanian-Palestinian action and to the call for achieving a peaceful, just, and comprehensive settlement in accordance with international legitimacy and under the UN umbrella. Naturally this trend will not satisfy Israel, which aims at keeping the U.S. and European roles incapable of moving toward peace and at maintaining the state of no war and nopeace in the region.

SAWT AL-SHA'B states: Within the military framework, Shamir, the enemy's foreign minister, believes that supplying Jordan and the other Arab countries with defensive weapons is a threat to the peace issue. At the same time, Shamir continues to emphasize Israel's military superiority in accordance with security requirements in the service of peace and stability in the region. This stand, which is at the forefront of Israeli policy, is based on maintaining an imbalance of power in the region in favor of the Zionist military machine under the pretext of Israeli security requirements. At the same time, national Arab security will remain threatened by Israeli expansionist aggression and the Arab countries on the conforntation line will be threatened by invasion, aggression, and expansion.

SAWT AL-SHA'B concludes: With increased world understanding of these facts and realization of the dangers of Israeli policy and practices not only for the Middle East, but also for world peacy, we are confident that peace and truth will dominate the arena of events and that the peace camp will be greater than the force and aggression camp.

Briefs

New Ambassadors Sworn In — Amman, 23 Sep (PETRA) — Talal al-Hasan, the new ambassador to Tunisia, was sworn in before His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hasan, the regent, here today. 'Adnan Malkawi was also sworn in as the new Jordanian ambassador to the YAR. [Text] [Amman PETRA-JNA in Arabic 1430 GMT 23 Sep 85 JN]

Tripartite Meeting To Be Held in Damascus

NC240752 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
0430 GMT 24 Sep 85

[Text] Damascus' contacts with Ministers Nabih Birri and Walid Junblatt, and the Lebanese Forces leadership have resulted in an agreement to convene a meeting in the Syrian capital among representatives of the three sides.

Former Minister Marwan Hamadah; Dr Muhammad Baydun, Southern Council chairman; and Michel Hammadah, chairman of the Lebanese television board of directors, will take part. The Syrian-sponsored meeting will draft a master political plan that will incorporate the proposed political plans, especially those from the National Union Front and the Lebanese Forces. This will be a step toward convening a national conference in which all political functionaries will participate.

In preparation for this meeting, Hamadah left for Damascus yesterday. He stopped in Al-Mukhtarah where he met with Walid Junblatt. Dr Baydun also met Minister Birri. As'ad al-Shaftari, director of the Lebanese Forces security department, will follow them to Damascus today.

The tripartite meeting is expected to have a positive effect on the security situation existing between the two sectors of the capital as well as on the contact lines in Beirut, the mountain, and the southern suburb of Beirut.

The participants will discuss the security situation, especially since Damascus is exerting pressure to cool down the contact lines, reopen the crossing points, resolve the supply crisis, and end kidnappings. A set of measures and arrangements are expected which will then be submitted to the Central Security Committee for implementation.

Al-Jumayyil Receives Telephone Call From Al-Asad

NC231117 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1030 GMT 23 Sep 85

[Text] President Amin al-Jumayyil received a telephone call from Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad today. Al-Asad congratulated Al-Jumayyil on the 3d anniversary of his election and wished him good luck for the remainder of his term in office. Al-Asad told Al-Jumayyil that despite the difficulties, the efforts exerted during the past 3 years had furthered the interests of Lebanon. The coming 3 years should bear their due fruits, Al-Asad added.

The Syrian president also voiced confidence that current efforts would produce a positive outcome. Syria will continue to help the government carry out its mission to restore peace in Lebanon.

The presidents exchanged views on various Lebanese developments, particularly the ongoing efforts to encourage dialogue and reconciliation.

President al-Jumayyil thanked Al-Asad for his congratulations and kind wishes and pledged to carry on with his work for the benefit of both countries.

Al-Jumayyil Interviewed on 3d Anniversary in Office

NC222131 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1730 GMT 22 Sep 85

[Interview with President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil at the B'abda Presidential Palace by press doyen Muhammad al-Ba'labakki on the occasion of the president's 3d anniversary in office; date not given — recorded]

[Excerpts] [Al-Ba'labakki] Mr President, the first part of this interview includes a number of questions connected with the daily life of our people. After all, this is what most concerns the citizens. We have collected a number of pictorial scenes especially for this interview. We ask your excellency to look at them carefully and to see the alarming situation in which we have been living for the past 11 years. What are your comments and reactions to this situation?

[Al-Jumayyil] This is something beyond imagination, something painful. Crying, a woman crying. This is a tragedy of an entire people. All the people today are symbolized by this woman who is crying. She is crying for her child, father, brother, just like every Lebanese is mourning a father, brother, son, relative, or friend. This Lebanese tragedy has been going on for a long time. Some think that it is 10 years old, and perhaps even older. Ten years of destruction, ruin, kidnappings, displacement, and killing. It is regrettable that the Lebanese society is [words indistinct], but it can no longer tolerate this. [words indistinct] these tragedies.

On this occasion, we appeal to all the Lebanese people to [words indistinct]. This tragedy must end. Our march will continue. We will face this great historic and fateful challenge. This is a big tragedy, but Lebanon will have to overcome it. We must all face it together. I shoulder the responsibility. Every citizen shoulders a responsibility. We must all shoulder responsibility. I will not give up until we take Lebanon to a safe haven, and we will reach this safe haven.

[Al-Ba'labakki] Actually, the Lebanese citizen has heard enough about optimism during 10 years of war. Is there now a feeling that there is not reason for optimism than at any time before?

[Al-Jumayyil] What you have said is correct. But Lebanon is feeling its way. We are striving for a solution. There have been many initiatives. There are now some positve factors which prompt us perhaps to be more optimistic. Many things have come together to produce such optimism. This includes the international situation, the regional situation, and the Lebanese situation. The combination of all these prompts us to be more optimistic. What makes us more and more optimistic is the Lebanese citizen's feeling about the need to (?find a peaceful solution). Even those who once advocated the use of the rifle are today thinking about the logic of dialogue and accord. This is what prompts optimism.

[Al-Ba'labakki] When we consider the 3 years which Your Excellency has spent in office, we see that they constitute approximately one-quarter of the period of duration of the crisis. It is my opinion that the crisis dates back to before the year 1975. I do not know what Your Excellency's opinion is. Are the difficulties which confronted the three previous presidents the same as those which Your Excellency has faced?

[Al-Jumayyil] When I entered the presidential palace on 23 September 1982, we requested that Philip Habib mediate with the Israeli Army and make sure that it would have no checkpoints on the outskirts of B'abda Palace. I say this with much pain so that you may fully understand under what circumstances we took over the reins of the state [words indistinct] my role. This is my destiny and I will bear my responsibility until the end. It is no use just watching the ruins and tragedy and doing nothing about them. We are facing our destiny and trying to live up to the challenge. We respect and admire the other presidents. They made their contribution to forwarding Lebanon's interests. Despite the fact that the circumstances were nothing like what they are now, for the reasons I have already mentioned, every president confronted difficulties which prompted him to tender his resignation. Each president submitted his resignation and then withdrew it. Hwoever, he was compelled to consider the possibility of resigning.

[Al-Ba'labakki] The people are suffering from high prices. What is the reason for the deterioration in the situation? Is the state unable to intervene to improve matters somewhat? The price of the dollar has gone up more here than it has abroad. Something is wrong.

[Al-Jumayyil] You are right. However, let us not forget that after 10 years of war, the potential reserves of the Central Bank and the industrial and productive establishments of Lebanon have dropped. We are draining these reserves daily. There is an attempt to impoverish Lebanon. We are paying the price vis-a-vis the dollar. This is clear, I believe. Another thing which we must not forget is that this is a world and not merely a Lebanese crisis. However, the Lebanese situation is aggravating the crisis.

[Al-Ba'labakki] Do you now believe that there is some inadequacy on the part of the state?

[Al-Jumayyil] All of us in the state have failed somehow. No one is infallible. We have all made mistakes. The Lebanese people, leaders, and regime have all made mistakes. Who is infallible? God above may alone be infallible. We have all erred but no one is perfect. We might have erred but two wrongs do not make a right and we do not correct mistakes by making further mistakes. The regime and all the Lebanese must examine their consciences and search their souls. All the Lebanese people must follow their consciences. No one is faultless and thus no one can blame others. We must all shoulder our responsibilities, because that is what is required at this stage.

[Al-Ba'labakki] Your Excellency, there is a problem which we are all aware of and from which all the Lebanese people are suffering, namely, the problem of the evacuees, which has worsened of late. In addition, there is the question of the Lebanese abroad. This problem is emptying Lebanon of its sons. How in your opinion can we handle this matter?

[Al-Jumayyil] The issue of the evacuees is Lebanon's problem. When the issue of the evacuees is solved, the problem of Lebanon will be solved. The issue of the evacuees is not a social one. It is not a question of a sack of rice or flour. Of course, this is an important matter. We must try to alleviate the sufferings of the evacuees who were forced to leave their beautiful stone houses in the mountains, where they lived with their families and tilled the soil to earn their livings. We are all evacuees. As long as there is one evacuee in his homeland, Lebanon, we will not have attained our rights. The evacuation problem is a very complicated one. It is a population problem of segregation more than being a social problem. Population segregation means the segregation of the homeland. We are segregating and cutting the homeland into pieces through the population segregation.

[Al-Ba'labakki] Your Excellency, what we have heard indicates that you have made efforts within the Arab and international arenas in the interest of the Lebanese issue. Let us begin with the closest country. By that I mean relations with fraternal Syria. So far you have made eight visits to Damascus. During these eight trips you held summit meetings where the atmosphere was optimistic and there were affirmations that the Lebanese file would be closed. Despite this, the Lebanese file remains open. How should we view these special relations with Syria? Do we really know what we want and what we do not want from fraternal Syria? Do we know what Syria wants or does not want from us? These questions, Mr President, are being asked repeatedly by the people. The people are questioning whether obstacles exist which prevent the Syrian initiative from succeeding.

[Al-Jumayyil] On the contrary, I feel quite reassured about Lebanese-Syrian relations. These relations are further improving. I believe that they will eventually reach an excellent stage. We cannot forget that Syrian-Lebanese relations have had their ups and downs since 1920. We have passed through phases of love and honeymoon, as well as divorce. This is how the situation has been between Lebanon and Syria. I believe that we are now laying the foundations for firm relations that cannot be affected by circumstances.

Visits take place between our two countries. If we consider relations between other neighboring countries, we will see that meetings occasionally occur between Kohl and Mitterrand, and between Mitterrand and Thatcher. Current international relations are not just diplomatic relations between consuls and ambassadors. Direct relations between countries are important, because a man is ultimately a human being whether he is an official or an ordinary citizen. He will be affected by personal relations. Personal contact will help to establish relations based on friendship, cooperation, and interaction that serve the interests of both countries. The visits we made to Damascus were insufficient. I believe that future relations and visits will be [words indistinct]. We want to reach this stage and to have regular visits, because such visits will lay sound foundations for special relations. Special relations are not merely slogans [words indistinct]. Feelings and a certain atmosphere exist that will ensure continued relations beneficial to both countries. I believe that we are now on the path toward this goal.

As for my relations with President Al-Asad, we are trying [words indistinct] between Lebanon and Syria. We must not forget the geographic, historical, economic, and strategic facts that affect normal and distinguished relations between Lebanon and Syria. On an economic level, there is normal economic integration as well as mutual interests similar to that found in relations between any neighboring countries. There is a joint Arab (?market) and the OAU. There are always distinguished relations between neighboring countries. Syria is our door to the entire Arab world. Therefore, it is natural for us to establish relations with Syria on a sound economic basis. Naturally, Syria has its own system and we have our free enterprise system which we must develop. Free enterprise does not mean chaos or exploitation. We must develop and promote our free enterprise system because it will then serve Lebanon and the Arab world. We must find the common denominator between the Lebanese and Syrian economies so that they will not be in conflict. I believe that there is room for integration between Lebanon and Syria. In the meantime, I believe in maintaining the interests, entity, traditions, and (?regime) of each country.

On the strategic level, we must not forget that we are still in a state of hostility toward Israel. The Arab countries have not yet reached peace with Israel. It is necessary, therefore, that we coordinate our policy with Syria because we have common interests and dangers. Lebanon will not be a passageway for attacks against Syria. [words indistinct] There must be strategic coordination between Lebanon and Syria to confront the Israeli dangers against them. There are joint committees which are supposed to discuss this issue in a manner serving the Arab, as well as the Syrian-Lebanese interests.

On the security level, there have always been some (?apprehensions) and reservations regarding security in both Syria and Lebanon. Each country posed a threat to the other. Therefore, we must give the necessary attention to this issue and coordinate our policy so that neither country will constitute a threat to the other. The parties concerned in both countries must sit down together and establish sound foundations. The same thing also applies to political and foreign policy.

[Al-Ba'labakki] From this premise, do you believe that the future holding of an Arab summit would contribute to the improvement of the situation in Lebanon and to solving the crisis?

[Al-Jumayyil] First of all we need a Lebanese summit. Let us convene a summit of all the heads [laughing] of the Lebanese state. Let us convene a Lebanese summit first. This would, as I have said before, bring all the Lebanese people together. Undoubtedly, an Arab summit — any summit — would help. An Arab summit would clear the atmosphere because Lebanon has been paying the price for Arab contradictions. The clearing of the Arab atmosphere would be bound to have its effect on the Arab arena. However, let us help ourselves first so that the Arab states may help us.

[Al-Ba'labakki] We are only talking about outstanding relations with Syria. Could this harm other Arab states?

[Al-Jumayyil] We are eager to have excellent relations with all the Arab states. What we aspire to are excellent relations with all the Arab states and outstanding relations with Syria because Syria is of fundamental importance. Special reasons dictate that we have outstanding relations with it. We want excellent relations with all the Arab states and outstanding relations with Syria. My discussions during my tours abroad, particularly in the Arab states, were very fruitful. I mention in particular my recent visit to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and His Majesty King Fahd, who actually shares the sufferings of all the Lebanese and feels with them. I was aware of his full readiness to help Lebanon at this particular time.

[Al-Ba'labakki] Let us talk a little about the projected international summit between Reagan and Gorbachev.

[Al-Jumayyil] I wish that we would first fully understand the importance of Arab relations. As for the Gorbachev-Reagan summit, let us first stop our war before taking interest in the battle of the stars and cosmos. This meeting is undoubtedly very important. We have the war of the Lebanese stars [laughing]. They are bright stars, brighter perhaps than the state's star. Let us hope the star of the state will reunite all these other stars in the name of Lebanon and not anything else.

[Al-Ba'labakki] Do you believe that a suitable opportunity exists for Lebanon to mobilize international resources with the Soviet Union [words indistinct].

[Al-Jumayyil] This is the object of my visits abroad. They are meant to strengthen Lebanon's steadfastness through the promotion of friendship between us and the heads of other states. Let us not forget that Israel is still occupying parts of Lebanon. Even if it were to withdraw, we do not know what it would leave behind. We do not know if we would be able to impose the state's sovereignty on the areas it is occupying or if it would leave a substitute army in Lebanon. Lebanon is a nonaligned state and we insist on friendly and excellent relations with the Soviet Union as well as on excellent relations with the United States and all states.

[Al-Ba'labakki] In addition to these diplomatic efforts, what other methods has the state adopted to liberate all Lebanese territory after the abrogation of the 17 May agreement?

[Al-Jumayyil] We know the situation in Lebanon. It is sad that the situation in Lebanon has been the weak link. Everyone has exploited Lebanon because its democracy and freedoms have enabled many people to come here and vent their anger. The people here never harmed anyone else or coveted anything from anyone else. They have paid the price of these Lebanese characteristics. It would have been possible to solve the Lebanese problem quickly were it not for the weapons which have been pouring in for the various parties and were it not for the unreasonable ambitions of these parties. If it had not been for this, we would probably not have reached this state of affairs. All the Lebanese parties would have become convinced that a military solution is illogical and they would have sat around a table and reached a settlement. This is the situation. We do not want to cry over spilt milk.

We are working to save the country, to liberate all Lebanese land, and to establish state sovereignty over all Lebanese territory. Syria is helping us in this regard.

We have several means by which to achieve this. First, we have state resistance. The state is resisting through its own means, through its relations, and through the efforts being made by the head of state, the head of the government, and state leaders abroad to explain Lebanese rights in all forums. The state stands steadfast. It refuses to submit to pressure from anyone at the expense of its dignity and independence.

We also must not forget that there is the popular resistance. The popular resistance constitutes a basic support for efforts being made by the state. The popular and heroic resistance has carried out courageous acts which history will record. The popular resistance in the south provides basic support for the state and Lebanese people's opposition to the Israeli occupation. We also have international friends. All these constitute the means available to us now. However, we must understand that the most important thing is for the Lebanese people to stand united. This is a treasure which we do not appreciate. This is the main impetus. As long as the people stand firm and understand the seriousness of the situation, then no state can swallow another state. As a result of the efforts we have been making, I think that the people have begun to comprehend the seriousness of the situation and the need to rally around their legitimate institutions in order to achieve their national goals.

[Al-Ba'labakki] Mr President, 3 years ago you took the constitutional oath, according to Article 50 of the Constitution, as follows: I swear by the Almighty God to respect the Constitution of the Lebanese nation and its laws and to safeguard the independence and territorial integrity of the Lebanese homeland. Do you think, Mr President, that this oath contradicts the calls for amending the Constitution or for changing the system?

[Al-Jumayyil] Lebanon is a democratic state. It respects regulations and laws. The provisions of the Lebanese Constitution are not rigid. In its article, the Constitution stipulated the way for its own amendment and, if necessary, for its replacement with a new constitution. We are trying to find a new, more progressive constitution for Lebanon. We want to develop a new system, a new constitution, but without [words indistinct]. We do not want to stick to literal texts. This will not solve the problem. However, there is a limit to this. On more than one occasion, there were very strong pressures on me to sidestep Lebanese customs, traditions, and existing principles. I always stood firm against such attempts in order to avoid falling into a vacuum and the unknown. I stood against all these attempts. I think that we have reached a stage where we can be optimistic. I think that we have reached a stage that will serve as an impetus for change — change for the good of all people, change for the sake of development, and not change for creating a vacuum.

[Al-Ba'labakki] Mr President, there is a real danger of partition. Most of the official institutions have been destroyed and attempts are being made to render the others inoperative. These institutions were designed in principle to unite. Will this stop? Will the state stand on its feet again? What efforts are being made by the state to stand on its feet again and to allow us to stand with it?

[Al-Jumayyil] Establishing cantons in Lebanon is an Israeli plan. What is regrettable is that we sometimes fall into the trap of serving Israeli interests at the expense of the Lebanese interests. We must understand and be aware of the dangers of partition which exist. We have pledged ourselves to save Lebanon from this trap and from the attempts to lead it into suicide solutions. Some are happy that they are achieving victories. But I fear that these victories will be illusory, and that we all will fall into the trap of these illusory victories. Furthermore, I do not think that this will be in the regional interest. Lebanon's partition will definitely lead to the partition of the Middle East region. I warn that Lebanon's partition will be the first stage on the path to partitioning the Middle East region and to establishing statelets which will fight each other for a long time.

[Al-Ba'labakki] Mr President, where is the national unity government and the role it is supposed to play? How do you explain the failure of the national unity government?

[Al-Jumayyil] Who told you that it has failed?

[Al-Ba'labakki] The people say that it has failed. It continues to exist and is running the affairs of government.

[Al-Jumayyil] I sympathize with the the people. We are all pained by the state to which the government has reached. Prime Minister Karami thought of resigning on more than one occasion, and he talked to me about it. But will resignation solve the problem? Or will it be more dangerous if the government resigns?

We fully appreciate the people's remarks. We know well that there is a flaw and we are not hiding the fact. The position of the government is unnatural, given the way we understand a government in Lebanon. There is an exceptional situation which is affecting the government's position.

I fully understand the concern of the Lebanese public. Prime Minister Rashid Karami has expressed this concern on more than one occasion. He has also told me of his desire to resign. However, Prime Minister Karami and I will shoulder our responsibilities to the end. Resignation is not the best solution and it means plunging the country into the unknown.

[Al-Ba'labakki] After discussing the government's position and the obstacles the Cabinet is facing in carrying out its responsibilities, let us turn to the question of the head of state. There are demands for the resignation of the head of state.

[Al-Jumayyil] How about changing the question? [laughing] There is no chance of that.

[Al-Ba'labakki] Permit me, Your Excellency, to ask the question, because it is preoccupying all our citizens. They want to know what the reaction of Amin al-Jumayyil, the head of state and president, really is to such demands. Could they constitute a practical solution to this hitherto insoluble problem? Will President Amin al-Jumayyil consider resigning if the crisis reaches a deadlock?

[Al-Jumayyil] Let me reassure you that the more the crisis worsens the more I am determined to carry out my responsibilities in order to serve my homeLand and people. It is my wish that in 3 years' time I shall be able to hand over the homeland to my successor in better shape than it was when I took over. I am very hopeful that when the time comes to hand over the trust we will have achieved something for our homeland. I will continue to shoulder my national responsibility throughout my term as president and even after my term ends, because we have pledged ourselves to this.

[Al-Ba'labakki] Does Amin al-Jumayyil take a particular stand on the abolition or maintenance of political sectarianism in the Lebanese system?

[Al-Jumayyil] This issue is being raised in various ways. Some raise it under the slogan of partnership. I would like to make my views very clear here. If partnership means sharing in government and authority in the service of the homeland, then we are in favor of sharing, in the interests of Lebanon. However, if partnership means dividing and sharing the land, then I am against it. I say yes to sharing in government and no to sharing the land. The question of sectarianism and its abolition or retention is being discussed by all the national factions. They are now busy preparing studies, working papers, and plans. I will support the most progressive plans. I am prepared to consider all suggestions which are being put forward. The goal is to find a common denominator that will unite the people in order that we may overcome the tribulations of the last 10 years.

Clashes Continue Along Combat Lines in Tripoli

9 Killed, 66 Wounded

NC231647 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1530 GMT 23 Sep 85

[Excerpt] Fighting along the combat lines in Tripoli became violent at 1500 today. Shells have fallen on all parts of the city. The Abu Samra, port, and market areas came under artillery shelling. Intensive rocket fire was also exchanged along the Al-Tabbanah, Ba'l Muhsin, and Al-Qubbah combat lines.

It should be noted that these clashes, involving the use of light- and medium-caliber weapons and RPG's, had remained intermittent throughout the morning. According to security reports, today's fighting has left 9 people dead and 66 others wounded.

Islamic, Syrian Delegations Meet

NC232027 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1900 GMT 23 Sep 85

[Excerpts] A guarded calm prevails in the northern capital tonight. A meeting was held at the headquarters of the Arab Deterrent Forces Command in Al-Haykaliyah. It was attended by the Syrian military delegation and the Islamic Gathering delegation, led by Shaykh Sa'id Sha'ban.

The meeting ended at 2030. Following the talks, Brigadier General Ghazi Kan'an, member of the Syrian military delegation, stated: We have demanded that all weapons be collected. In cooperation with the Lebanese Army, we will mount search and storming [mudahamat] operations any place and any time such weapons are not declared.

Kan'an added: We will form a committee which, in cooperation with the Lebanese Army, will carry out any storming operations. We have emphasized our firm view that the Lebanese Army is a good security tool. We will give it our support so that it will be able to perform all its tasks as a security tool.

Brig Gen Kan'an continued: We will always be available should the Lebanese Army seek help or assistance. We will protect this army against any harm. The Islamic Gathering, he added, has agreed that the Army should play its role. We hope that members of the Gathering are serious and not just attempting to gain time. We have emphasized to the delegation that we know what weapons its members have and that we will storm every place we know possesses weapons.

Responding to a question about the weapons in the possession of the Arab Democratic Party, Kan'an said that there is a Syrian guarantee these weapons will not be used.

There is no reason for fear, he noted, when the cause of explosion is uprooted. He affirmed: Henceforth, we will not allow anyone to control the state's utilities.

Speaking for his party, Shaykh Sha'ban said: Praise be to God, we managed to renew our pledge and confidence in the Damascus agreement, which represents a sound basis for understanding. We agreed to adopt procedural military measures to deploy the Lebanese Army together with units from the Arab Deterrent Forces. This will assure the Army that it is not alone.

Shaykh Sha'ban added: We hope that the Syrian brothers will make strenuous efforts to convince the other side to stop the practices being carried out by some of its members along the combat lines.

Regarding the military measures that will be adopted, Shaykh Sha'ban said: We do not want to anticipate events. We agreed to fix some posts of the Deterrent Forces in certain areas close to Army positions. This will enable the Army to seek help from the Deterrent Forces in the event of disturbances.

Asked when these measures would be implemented, Sha'ban replied: We hope that their implementation will take place soon, God willing.

Agreement Fails To End Clashes

NC240555 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic
0445 GMT 24 Sep 85

[Text] The Syrian-brokered agreement arrived at in Tripoli last night has not been successful in stopping the clashes between the Islamic Unification Movement and the Arab Democratic Party.

According to security reports from Tripoli this morning, various quarters of the city are currently being subjected to violent and indiscriminate shelling.

Meanwhile, clashes involving the use of various kinds of weapons are taking place on the demarcation lines between the positions held by the Islamic Unification Movement and those of the Red Knights [Arab Democratic Party militia]

Shelling, Sniping Reported in Beirut, Mountain

NC231128 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1030 GMT 23 Sep 85

[Text] Fighting took place on the Galerie Sim'an and Mar Mikha'il combat lines about 1 hour ago. Shells reached the areas of Al-Shiyah, Al-Ruways, and Harat Hurayk. The fighting stopped about 30 minutes ago.

In the capital, shelling has continued on both sides of the Ra's al-Nab'-Sodeco combat line since 1200 today. Machinegun fire has occurred on the Normandy-Port combat line. We have been informed that bursts of gunfire are being heard in Hayy al-Lija.

In the mountain, sniper fire is taking place on the Bsaba and Kamil Hotel combat lines. Antiaircraft fire was exchanged between Al-Hadath and Al-Shuwayfat.

PSP Executes Amal Members

NC231741 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
1615 GMT 23 Sep 85

[Text] Caution now prevails in the streets of West Beirut where clashes took place between the Amal movement and the Progressive Socialist Party [PSP]. According to security sources, this fighting was triggered by the PSP's execution of three Amal members who had opened fire from a car at the Jall al-Bahr Barracks, killing Hisham Amand and wounding others.

Security reports from West Beirut note that an armed Amal group raided an Oger Liban Center in Bi'r al-Hasan last night and stole excavators, equipment, and 19 trucks.

Al-Huss Lashes Out at Gunmen

NC230931 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
0800 GMT 23 Sep 85

[Text] Education and Labor Minister Dr Salim al-Huss was in constant touch throughout the night with the Syrian observers team, the Coordination Committee for West Beirut, and a number of political and party leaders, in a bid to halt the deterioration in West Beirut's security situation.

Commenting on last night's events, Minister al-Huss said: One should not remain silent about the frenzied fighting that took place in West Beirut last night. God knows we have nothing else but words with which to respond to the armed parties which turned the city's streets into a jungle teeming with ferocious beasts. Weapons no longer bestow honor on those who carry them, now that they have turned these weapons into a means to attack defenseless and honest people, kill the innocent, and seize the property of peaceful citizens.

Minister al-Huss added: These people persist in their belief that they are effective by virtue of their weapons. But, the people view them differently. We cannot understand how all this can take place without the knowledge of those who have the arms, or else, where do the gunmen get the ammunition for their medium- and heavy-caliber weapons, which are causing all this destruction and fear? He asked: If this is the result of alliance, what would be the result of enmity?

Minister al-Huss added: We implore God to save the people from the evil of this sinister government which has become the source of the misfortune of these poor people. Half of this government is imposing a blockade and hunger on the people, or is incapable of averting the blockade and hunger imposed on them; the other half of the government is sowing death, free of charge, among the people. We expect nothing good from this government. We would not have remained in the government were it not for our concern over the positive signs of salvation looming on the horizon, thanks to the promising activities that the Syrian leadership is now sponsoring to bring the country to dialogue and reconciliation. Without these, there can be no salvation.

Junblatt Briefed on Events

NC240711 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
0430 GMT 24 Sep 85

[Text] Minister Walid Junblatt met with former Minister Marwan Hamadah and a member of the Political Bureau of the Progressive Socialist Party, both of whom briefed Junblatt on the security situation in West Beirut. Minister Junblatt was quoted as having expressed his strong dismay at what had taken place there. He had emphasized that the situation should not be repeated and that those who caused it should be punished.

PSP sources noted that the PSP will strictly implement the measures it adopted a few days ago to close its offices and reduce its armed presence [in West Beirut] so as to consolidate its alliance with the Amal movement.

AL-SAFIR Blames Birri, Junblatt

NC231705 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic
1045 GMT 23 Sep 8

[Text] West Beirut newspapers today reported on the clashes that occurred in the area last night. *AL-SAFIR* said that it has not been possible to count the casualties in Beirut because of the large number of gunmen roaming the streets. The paper adds that the sound of shellfire was sufficient to indicate the extent of the damage.

AL-SAFIR said that the allies in West Beirut have suddenly turned into enemies, fighting to gain control of streets and alleys and competing to kill each other. The paper says: The fighting has exceeded all limits and there is no longer any alternative but to demand frankly and publicly that West Beirut and Tripoli be saved from the menancing weapons and gunmen and from the hooligans who interfere with our security.

AL-SAFIR adds: Ministers Birri and Junblatt are directly and personally responsible for what is taking place in West Beirut. Before we level accusations indiscriminately against this or that official, faction, or office, let us say that we are bewildered by Birri and Junblatt and by all the gunmen in Beirut and Tripoli. We support the words of Birri and Junblatt, but we are against their deeds. We support Birri and Junblatt in theory, but we are against them in practice. We support them if the weapons are to be used for liberation, making changes, and achieving unity, but we are against them if the weapons are to be used for terrorism and fragmentation. The paper concludes by saying: In the name of Beirut we make this protest and in the name of Tripoli we renew it.

Islamic Grouping Calls for General Strike 27 Sep

NC231929 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1800 GMT 23 Sep 85

[Text] An extraordinary meeting of the Islamic Grouping was held today at the home of former Prime Minister Rashid Al-Sulh. The session ended at 1945, and a statement was issued which noted the Grouping's strong condemnation and denunciation of the comprehensive security flare-up in Beirut. The statement called for the city's salvation through all available means, as well as for the removal of all weapons illegally brought into the city as soon as possible.

The Grouping decided to send envoys to Damascus to brief Syrian officials on the latest incidents and to discuss the measures that should be adopted to save the capital, Beirut. In response to the wishes of the people, the statement also called for an immediate general strike. In honor of Muslim sentiments for Ashura Day, which falls next Wednesday, the Islamic Grouping has called on all citizens to observe a 1-day general strike on Friday, 27 September.

The grouping also decided to immediately contact the spiritual and political leaders of various groups and sects to discuss the measures which must be taken to end the tragic situation in Beirut.

Resistance Forces Carry Out Operations in South

NC231454 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1400 GMT 23 Sep 85

[Text] The town of 'Arab Salim in the south has been subjected to violent shelling since 1530 today. Several people have been killed or wounded as a result, including two female martyrs.

Mines planted near Dayr Siryan by the Martyr Hasan Dawud Group were detonated by remote control when three enemy vehicles were passing through the area at 1445. The three vehicles were seen ablaze. The enemy immediately brought reinforcements into the area and directed indiscriminate bursts of fire at nearby villages, including Dayr Siryan, Yuhmur, Al-Shaqif, and east and west Zawtar. Fire also broke out in some plantations.

The Martyr Hasan Dawud resistnace group in Jabal al-Rayhan used 85mm artillery to shell a position jointly held by agent Lahd militias and Israeli occupation forces in Tallat al-Suwayda'. During the 2-hour shelling, the position was hit by 30 shells. According to an eyewitness account, several people in the positions were wounded and a vehicle was seen on fire.

Israeli, Lahd Forces Shell Areas in South

NC240830 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
0430 GMT 24 Sep 85

[Excerpts] There is tension on the Kafr Falus, Lab'a, and 'Ayn al-Mir combat lines in Sidon District following the violent clashes that took place there over the past 2 days. Agent Lahd militiamen yesterday shelled the outskirts of Sidon.

A military source in the Popular Liberation Army's Martyr Ma'ruf Sa'd Forces has stated that Lahd militiamen initiated the fighting on the Kafr Falus front at midnight the day before yesterday. The Lahd militia shelled the positions of the Popular Liberation Army in 'Abra, Majdalyun, and Kafr Jarrah with 20 rounds of 155mm field artillery.

The source warned: If the populated areas continue to be shelled, our heavy artillery is capable of silencing Lahd's artillery emplacements positioned in the nieghborhood of Jazzin.

Meanwhile, the confrontation between the national and Islamic resistance fighters and the occupation forces and their agents continues. The enemy forces and their agent militiamen in the south yesterday shelled the liberated areas both near and far from the occupied security zone. They shelled the town of 'Arab Salim yesterday. Two girls of the Hashim family were martyred when a shell fell on their house in the town. The national resistance fighters retaliated by pounding the occupation forces' position in Tallat al-Suwayda' with mortars for approximately 2 hours.

Saudi Prince Statement on Jordanian-Syrian Talks

JN240624 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1815 GMT 17 Sep 85

[Text] At the end of the Jordanian-Syrian meetings, Saudi Crown Prince 'Abdallah 'Abd al-'Aziz made a statement in which he said that the dialogue was characterized by positiveness, and that there were several meeting points on several important issues and on a number of steps to create a propitious atmosphere for cooperation between the two countries within the framework of commitment to Arab summit resolutions on which there was Arab concensus, especially concerning the Palestinian cause and Arab solidarity to confront the Israeli aggression and the enemies of the Arab nation. Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz added that the Syrian and Jordanian delegations agreed to hold another meeting in the second half of October in Saudi Arabia.

Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister Visits

LD240508 Tehran IRNA in English 0456 GMT 24 Sep 85

[Text] Damascus, Sept. 24, IRNA — Iran's Foreign Ministry Deputy for Political Affairs Hoseyn Sheykholeslam arrived here Monday night to hold talks with Syrian officials. During his stay in Syria, Sheykholeslam will discuss current situation in the region and bilateral issues between the two countries with Syrian officials.

Al-zu'bi Receives PNC Speaker Al-Fahum

JN231217 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 23 Sep 85

[Text] Damascus — PNC Speaker Khalid al-Fahum has expressed his deep appreciation for Syria and its persistent struggle, as well as its principled pan-Arab stands toward the Arab issues under President Hafiz al-Asad. He asserted that the Palestine cause is the first concern of Syria, its people, leadership, and government, and the base of continued struggle until the Arab nation, particularly the Palestinian people, achieve their objectives of liberation and construction. This came during a meeting between People's Assembly Speaker Mahmud al-Zu'bi and Al-Fahum today. They reviewed the current issues in the Arab arena, particularly in the Palestinian arena. Al-Fahum asserted that Syria's stands and firm and courageous struggle under President al-Asad constitute the stronghold of steadfastness and confrontation in the face of challenges and Arab collapse and a strong dam confronting deviation and defeatism.

Al-Zu'bi also received In'am Ra'd, member of the higher council and the emergency committee of the Syrian Social Nationalist Party [SNP]. The talks revolved around the current situation, particularly in the Lebanese arena. [Words indistinct] highly praised Syria's militant stands and support for Lebanon and hoped that the fraternal Lebanese people would successfully overcome the crisis to continue their normal lives peacefully, independent, and united.

Baqjaji Confers With Canadian Official, Envoy

JN231351 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1232 GMT 23 Sep 85

[Text] Damascus, 23 Sep (SANA) — Dr Sabah Baqjaji, minister of state for planning affairs, met here today with Robert Elliott, chief of the Middle East Department of the Canadian Foreign Ministry, in the presence of the Canadian ambassador in Damascus. During the meeting they discussed economic, scientific, and technical cooperation between the two countries and ways to bolster bilateral trade.

On this level, a Canadian economic and technical delegation will visit Syria next month to discuss possibilities for bilateral cooperation, particularly in the areas of oil, gas, and agriculture. Another delegation will also arrive in the near future to discuss possibilities for bilateral financial cooperation.

Received by Al-Shar'

JN231450 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1415 GMT 23 Sep 85

[Text] In Damascus, Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' received Robert Elliott, chief of the Middle East Department of the Canadian Foreign Ministry, at 1300 today. The Canadian ambassador to Damascus attended the meeting. Talks revolved around the current situation in the Middle East, bilateral relations, and issues of mutual concern.

Bulgarian Metallurgy Minister Visits Oil Fields

JN231948 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1517 GMT 23 Sep 85

[Text] Damascus, 23 Sep (SANA) — Toncho Ivanov Chakurov, Bulgarian minister of metallurgy and mineral resources, and his delegation today visited oil fields in (Al-Jabsah), located in the Al-Hasakah governorate in northern Syria. The Bulgarian minister was also acquainted with progress in the project for exploration and utilization of natural gas in the area which is carried out by the Bulgargeomin DSO Corporation.

Polish Science Minister, Delegation Depart

JN231403 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1238 GMT 23 Sep 85

[Text] Damascus, 23 Sep (SANA) — Dr Benon Miskiewicz, Polish minister of science, higher education, and technology, and the accompanying delegation left Damascus today following a week-long visit to Syria. He was seen off at the airport by Dr Kamal Sharaf, minister of higher education, a number of ministry officials, and the Polish ambassador in Damascus.

Egyptian Opposition Solidarity Message to Al-Asad

JN231707 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1515 GMT 23 Sep 85

[Text] The League of Arab Egypt sent President Hafiz al-Asad a pledge written in blood by martyr hero 'Ali Tulbah Hasan.

The text of the pledge follows:

A pledge to the great Arab leader Hafiz al-Asad. Greetings of Arabism. While heading for the arena of confrontation against the Zionist enemy and its agents in southern Lebanon, I would like to prove to you and to the world that Egypt's people have not dropped their weapons before that historic enemy of our people and nation. In the League of Arab Egypt, I was nursed on loving sacrifice and self-denial. Your Excellency the president has been our high example, our supporter, and a live and faithful example of Arabism.

May God grant you continued health and may God preserve you for our Arab nation until the objectives under your wise leadership are achieved, God willing. Arab Egypt will win. Peace be upon you.

[Signed] Martyr of the League of Arab Egypt in southern Lebanon 'Ali Tulbah Hasan

[Dated] 17 September

The president also received from League of Arab Egypt leader Muhammad Taymur a pledge written in blood.

The text of the pledge follows:

A pledge written in blood to the great Arab leader President struggler Hafiz al-Asad, secretary general of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party. Greetings of Arabsim. In the name of the fighters of the League of Arab Egypt, command and bases: While we are today paying tribute to a hero of our comrades, martyr 'Ali Tulbah Hasan, on his way to glory and immortality, we stand and extend salutes and admiration to you, Your Excellency the president, in whom confidence is placed for realizing the aspirations of our Arab people. We renew the pledge that Arab Egypt, along with its unyielding determination will remain behind your leadership as faithful soldiers who are worthy of the mission to which you devote yourself, believing that a nation led by Hafiz al-Asad will inevitably win.

Your Excellency the president. Comradely greetings to you and to all our comrades in the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party. May God grant you success in attaining our nation's objectives for unity, liberation, and progress. Arab Egypt will win.

[Signed] League of Arab Egypt leader Muhammad Taymur

[Dated] 17 September

Al-Kasm Briefs Cabinet on Political Situation

JN231319 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
1215 GMT 23 Sep 85

[Excerpt] In Damascus, the Council of Ministers held a meeting under Prime Minister Dr 'Abd al-Ra'uf al-Kasm at 1000 today.

During this meeting a general political review of the current situation in the region was made, during which the prime minister explained the results of the Jeddah talks held in Saudi Arabia last week. During these talks Syria's firm stand against the Camp David accords and all capitulationist plans was emphasized. There was also emphasis on the need to achieve an effective Arab solidarity against the Arab nation's major enemy, which is the Zionist enemy.

Moreover, there was emphasis on considering the Palestine question the central cause of the entire Arab nation and on always acting on the basis of summit conference resolutions that Arabs have unanimously agreed on in the confrontation of the enemy.

After the conclusion of the political review, Dr Al-Kasm talked about the elements which constitute the bases of the national economy, foremost the forces of production which should continue to receive attention . He affirmed that increasing production allows the state to achieve a continuous balance between wages and prices.

Jordanian Economic Delegation Meets Al-Tarabulsi

JN201052 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic
20 Sep 85 pp 1, 15

[Text] Damascus (PETRA) — The Jordanian economic delegation led by Hamdi al-Tabba', chairman of the Amman Chamber of Commerce, met with Syrian Industry Minister 'Ali al-Tarabulsi here yesterday. They discussed industry and trade relations of interest to the private sector in the two countries and ways to bolster and promote them.

The delegation, which arrived in Damascus yesterday, heard a briefing from Al-Tarabulsi on Syria's 5-year development plan and met with Syrian Interior Minister Muhammad Ghabbash.

In a statement to the PETRA-JORDANIAN NEWS AGENCY correspondent in Damascus, Al-Tabba' said that Ghabbash affirmed to delegation members that measures were implemented at the Dar'a border post to facilitate travel between the two countries.

The delegation members also visited the Jordanian pavillion at the Damascus International Fair. Following a tour of a number of Arab pavilions at the fair, Al-Tabba' said the industry sector in Jordan has achieved tangible progress compared with similar industries in Arab countries. He pointed out that he invited the chairmen of Damascus chambers of industry and trade to visit Jordan.

Conditions for Better Arab Relations Viewed

JN201447 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
1130 GMT 20 Sep 85

[Station commentary]

[Text] U.S. diplomacy in its political and military aspects constitutes a cover for Israel and its designs and a direct U.S. commitment to protect Zionist objectives that are completely hostile to the Arab nation's aspirations and hopes. In order to have genuine and sincere intentions toward our people's fateful pan-Arab cause, the lessons learned from the many dealings with U.S. diplomacy must be taken into consideration in any plan of action. Otherwise, we do not believe that the Arab atmosphere can be cleared and that the Arab state of affairs can be remedied. This is because the meeting of Arab forces and the mobilization of Arab potentials and capabilities cannot be exploited in the service of half-solutions and the liquidation of the Arab struggle in the interest of the two strategic allies, the United States and Israel. When the reply to Israel's threats and schemes against the Arab nation takes the form of an appeal for help to the United States and its plans, this explicitly means that those who seek this help do not have sincere intentions toward the pan-Arab demand and the popular will that the martyrs' blood have signified for the sake of Palestine and its sacred soil.

While the heirs of Al-Sadat and Camp David are making their reconciliation with Israel their target and their strategy, the sons of the Egyptian people are watering the soil of southern Lebanon with their blood. By doing so, they seem to affirm that Egypt can never be what those who have deviated from Arab consensus wished it to be. If the leaders of the imperialist Western world have benefited from the dismemberment of Arab ranks, the citizen on Arab land must inevitably ask the following question: Who has created this dismemberment and which party benefits from its results? Once this question is asked, it becomes necessary to explain the following facts to the masses: Israel, which occupies Arab territory, disperses millions of Arabs, and continues to prepare for further aggressions against the Arabs, is the common enemy of the Arabs wherever they may be, and the United States, as shown by events since the 5 June 1967 aggression and the invasion of Lebanon, is a full partner of Israel in its aggression against the Arab nation. Since this irrefutable fact represents one of the aspects of the conflict in the region, then why should the Arabs be divided about it?

The Arab citizen whose fate and existence are threatened refuses to bargain with his rights. He will always remain the most qualified person to determine which party is responsible for the deterioration in the Arab state of affairs and for the fragmentation in Arab ranks.

We in Arab Syria believe that the current Arab differences have been caused by those who are bargaining and those who plan to make feudal domains of the Arab homeland within the Zionist empire under the canopy of U.S. hegemony. We in Syria are convinced that those who seek reconciliation with Israel at the expense of the pan-Arab cause and the Arab struggle for the sake of Palestine are the ones who are responsible for Arab divisions and the deterioration in the Arab state of affairs. For all these reasons, Syria is not prepared to abandon its principled and ideological stand. Syria is also not prepared, under any circumstances whatsoever, to abandon a path that has been paved by the blood of the martyrs and entrenched by the determination of the Arab masses who are anxious to take their revenge on their enemies.

The Arab-Zionist conflict is not a political phenomenon. It is an inevitable conflict as long as Arab territories are occupied, as long as Palestinian rights are usurped, and as long as Israel continues to be a colonialist entity that is hostile to the Arab nation's civilization. Syria will spare no efforts to reassure the Arab citizen about his future and not those who pant after U.S. solutions at the expense of the pan-Arab cause and the objectives of the masses.

AL-THAWRAH on S. Lebanon Conflict as Pan-Arab

JN210656 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
0345 GMT 21 Sep 85

[From the press review]

[Text] Regarding the pan-Arab dimension of resistance operations in Lebanon, *AL-THAWRAH* says in its editorial:

The heroes of the Lebanese national resistance are recording splendid heroic deeds in their operations against the Zionist enemy and its agents in southern Lebanon. The importance of these operations does not just stem from the fact that they are the ideal revolutionary method chosen by the Lebanese people to liberate their territory from Israeli occuaption, but also from the fact that they are the decisive reply to the Israeli occupation and the capitulation plans as well.

This is the embodiment of popular pan-Arab action in southern Lebanon, where the the resistance trench has turned into a stronghold for the Arab national liberation movement. The heroes of this movement are vying with one another in seeking martyrdom, because they consider the battle for the liberation of southern Lebanon as the battle for liberating all occupied Arab territories. The comprehensive struggle waged by the Lebanese national resistance opens the way for a new phase of national and pan-Arab awakening in the Arab arena.

The paper adds: We hardly need emphasize that the Lebanese national resistance oeprations have demonstrated by their heroism that they hve gone beyond the Lebanese geographical zone when they turned southern Lebanon into a pan-Arab trench embodying the common struggle, blood, and destiny of all the sons of the Arab nation. When Syria decided that national resistance should be the course and method for fighting occupation and liberating occupied Arab territories and gave it every support and assistance, it was out of its belief that this is the true popular national and pan-Arab action which will serve as a new turning point in the Arab-Israeli conflict and will help greatly in turning the balance of power in the favor of the Arab national liberation movement.

AL-THAWRAH concludes: The heroic operation carried out yesterday by Alexandria's son in southern Lebanon confirms that the battle against the Zionist enemy and Camp David is the battle of all Arabs and that resistance is the ideal course leading to victory and liberation. The Arab masses' solidarity with Lebanese national resistance is a practical embodiment of this fact and a practical translation of the great words uttered by the great Arab leader Hafiz al-Asad, that martydom is the course to victory.

TISHRIN on Anti-Israeli Resistance, Syrian Role

JN201025 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
0345 GMT 20 Sep 85

[From the press review]

[Text] In a commentary entitled "Reactions," *TISHRIN* says: The Zionist entity, which tasted bitter defeat at the hands of the

Lebanese national resistance and paid a high price for its expansionist ambitions, is trying by all means to belittle the importance of the Lebanese resistance; distort the image of Arab resistance in the West Bank, the Gaza Strip, and the Golan; and take revenge against Lebanon.

The Zionist entity fears that Lebanese resistance methods and operations will be adopted in all parts of the Arab territories following evidence that citizens in the occupied territories are preparing to rise and strike the Zionist entity at its roots.

These Zionist apprehensions were enhanced after a new move by the Lebanese national resistance, which is mounting offensive battles to liberate the border strip. The resistance men have been able to liberate many areas which had been under the control of Zionist forces and the agent Lahd gang. Undoubtedly, this transformation of the resistance in Lebanon and in other occupied Arab territories was one of the direct reasons for the enemy leaders' threats against Syria, given its position as the side patronizing the Lebanese national resistance, feeding the national upsurge in the West Bank, the Gaza Strip, and the Golan,and preventing the implementation of the liquidation of the Palestinian cause in accordance with the 11 February agreement.

Concluding, the paper says: While defining its pan-Arab principles in assisting fraternal Lebanon, defending the Palestinian people's rights, and upholding all other pan-Arab causes, Syria takes into account all considerations. Syria does not fear threats.

Ambassador Submits Protest Over UK Moves

TA241016 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1000 GMT 24 Sep 85

[Text] The Israeli ambassador in London drove to the British Foreign Ministry approximately 1 hour ago to present to the director general of the ministry a letter from Prime Minister Shim'on Peres addressed to British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher. This letter is in answer to the letter Mr Peres received from Mrs Thatcher before the latter announced in Al-'Aqabah her intention to invite a Jordanian-Palestinian delegation to London.

At the same time the Israeli ambassador conveyed Israel's protest regarding the delegation's invitation to London and the weapons deals between Britain and Jordan and Saudi Arabia.

Shamir Accuses Britain of 'Appeasement'

TA240529 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English
0500 GMT 24 Sep 85

[Text] Vice Premier Yitzhaq Shamir accuses the British Government of appeasement in its policy toward the Arab countries. Speaking in an Israeli Bond gathering in New York, Shamir denounced the British plan to sell sophisticated weapons to Jordan and Saudi Arabia and the prime minister's invitation to a Jordanian-Palestinian delegation, including PLO members, for talks. Shamir called that a terrible blow to the cause of peace in the Middle East. Calling it appeasement, Shamir noted that is a British invention.

Peres Receives Shultz Message on Peace Process

TA231635 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew
1500 GMT 23 Sep 85

[Text] U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz has again stated that the United States has not changed its position on the continuation of the peace process with Jordan and the Palestinians. The United States insists that King Husayn promise to hold direct negotiations with Israel. Our political correspondent 'Oz Frankel reports that this is included in a letter which U.S. Ambassador to Israel Thomas Pickering passed on to Prime Minister Shim'on Peres yesterday. Shultz adds in his letter that Washington will not recognize the PLO unless it fulfills the conditions laid down by the United States; namely, recognition of Israel, recognition of UN Resolution 242, and a cessation of terrorism.

Shamir, Egypt's Al-Majid Discuss Tabah Issue

TA240550 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English
0500 GMT 24 Sep 85

[Text] Egypt is willing to consider the possibility of solving the Tabah dispute without arbitration or conciliation; this according to Egyptian Foreign Minister 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid who met with Vice Premier Yitzhaq Shamir in New York last night. Al-Majid also said that working out other problems in Israel-Egypt relations is not conditional on a solution to the Tabah issue. Shamir observed if that is the case, Egypt could already return its ambassador to Tel Aviv, but Al-Majid replied this is a separate issue.

After the meeting, Al-Majid said there is a possibility of settling the Tabah dispute and a possibility for a summit meeting between President Mubarak and Prime Minister Peres, but he refused to elaborate.

Shamir said that Al-Majid defended the PLO leader, Yasir 'Arafat, during his meeting, saying he is a moderate and not responsible for terror attacks in the administered territories in recent weeks. Shamir suggested setting up a joint committee to assess progress since the Camp David agreement and consider how best to proceed. Al-Majid said he would bring that idea to President Mubarak.

Shamir Comments on Meeting

TA240644 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0505 GMT 24 Sep 85

[Text] Following the meeting with the Egyptian foreign minister, Yitzhaq Shamir believes that good conditions for a dialogue with Egypt have been created, and that this amounts to more than conciliatory language. Our correspondent Razi Barqay spoke with Mr Shamir early this morning:

[Begin recording] [Barqay] Mr Shamir, did the Egyptian foreign minister raise new proposals for solving the Tabah problem?

[Shamir] He said he was willing to discuss solutions that have not been raised to date; that is, solutions not included in the framework of conciliation or arbitration.

[Barqay] Can you give examples?

[Shamir] They are willing to discuss various compromises — solutions acceptable to both sides. For example, Minister Butrus Ghali raised an unofficial proposal to put off dealing with this issue for 2 years. There are solutions proposed by the Americans that are outside of this framework. The more options there are, the greater the opportunities.

[Barqay] Do we not have a new Egyptian nuance here?

[Shamir] There is something new here. We are extricating ourselves from a state of paralysis, and this allows for freer negotiations. However, he added something that I think is important, which is that Tabah is not a condition for solving other problems in relations between Israel and Egypt.

[Barqay] Are we therefore to assume that the return of the Egyptian ambassador to Tel Aviv has nothing to do with the Tabah issue?

[Shamir] This is the question I raised in our meeting. He said the return of the ambassador is a separate issue, not included in this mattter. This issue was part of our talk.

[Barqay] What about a summit? Is this connected with Tabah?

[Shamir] We did not discuss this issue. It has no logical connection with it. [end recording]

Referring to Minister Arens' complaints that the prime minister has not stood by his word concerning the mandate given to the directors general delegation leaving for Cairo, Yitzhaq Shamir avoided criticizing the prime minister. From what he said it emerges that he does not believe this issue should have created such an uproar. Shamir said, however, that we all agree that any proposal coming from Egypt should be submitted for discussion in the government, with the participation of all parties.

Peres Upholds Delegation's Authority on Tabah

TA240728 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 24 Sep 85 pp 1, 7

[Report by David Landau and asher Wallfish]

[Excerpt] The Israeli delegation to the Tabah talks with Egypt, resuming Thursday, will feel fully empowered to draft a compromise, or document of arbitration, with Egypt notwithstanding the Likud's protests that such a drafting would be beyond the delegation's mandate.

A senior delegation source told *THE JERUSALEM POST* last night that Premier Peres had rebuffed Acting Foreign Minister Moshe Arens' demand yesterday that the reference to drafting a compromise be exorcised from the formal letter of instructions which Peres wrote to the negotiating delegation.

Peres Discusses Policies With Knesset Committee

Egyptian Ties, UK Moves Viewed

TA231855 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 23 Sep 85

[Report by 'Oded Ben-Ami]

[Text] The prime minister thinks that President Mubarak and King Husayn coordinated their trips to Washington, and believes that Husayn will even agree to make some concessions to implement his plan to bring about negotiations on the future of Judaea and Samaria in four stages. Shim'on Peres also believes that the U.S. position on talks with the PLO has not changed, and that the Americans still support solving the disputes pending between Israel and Egypt first, and only afterward dealing with the Jordanian matter.

Knesset member [MK] Dan Meridor told the prime minister that he does not believe the Egyptians' promises and thinks that they will continue to violate agreements. MK Eliyahu Ben-Elisar claimed that the Egyptians are sending low-level officials to Israel in order to perpetuate their current attitude. MK Ehud Olmert told the prime minister that he believes President Mubarak treats him with contempt, instead of making an effort at some degree of flexibility; he does everything to make things more difficult for Peres. Peres, he added, instead of getting angry at Mubarak, is angry at Shamir. Peres retorted to the committee's Likud members that Mubarak is not a partner in his government, whereas Shamir is. Except for angry remarks and statements here and there, the prime minister said he had not heard good proposals from the Likud on promoting peace. In order to attain peace with Egypt, he said, the people had been wrung dry; 15 settlements had been removed, a city had been burned, airfields had been eliminated. The prime minister demanded a little respect for other sides' views, and a little humility. Dan Meridor replied: The Alignment factions should also be more humble.

Peres noted that peace was not a partisan matter; we signed an agreement in which arbitration also appears, and suddenly it does not hold; I will act according to my conscience and reason. The delegation of directors general to Cairo will discuss three possibilities: compromise, conciliation, and arbitration. It cannot make decisions; it will only make recommendations to the Cabinet.

Summing up the issue, Shim'on Peres said: I am not happy about last night's internal dispute in the Likud; I am in favor of rotation, but I object to it starting now.

Another issue raised in the committee meeting was the British arms sales to Saudi Arabia and Jordan, and the invitation extended to Muhammad Milhim and Ilyas Khuri to meet with the British foreign secretary. The prime minister said he disagreed with Britain's claimthat the arms sales and the meeting with the Palestinians would contribute to peace. He said he would soon react to this in an unequivocal manner, adding: I was invited to Britain, and I will go there to argue my position in London.

MK Yosi Sarid claimed that the Likud members were professional boycotters; their suggestion that Britain and Thatcher be boycotted is ridiculous. If we agreed to the United States talking with Sanyurah, let the British talk with Milhim. Perhaps something good will come out of it, and the positions of the PLO will finally be put to the test, Sarid said.

Notes Decrease in Terrorism

TA231339 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1319 GMT 23 Sep 85

[Text] The prime minister believes that terrorism in Judaea and Samaria has diminished. The reasons for this are the stationing of regular army units in the area, administrative detentions, deportations, and an increased alertness for terrorist action emanating from Jordan. Our correspondent 'Oded Ben-'Ami reports that Mr Peres also told the members of the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee that the residents of the territories support an 'Arafat-type solution, but do not advocate terrorism as a means of attaining it.

Notes 'Encouraging' USSR Signs

TA240756 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 23 Sep 85

[Text] Prime Minister Shim'on Peres today hinted that some encouraging signs are reaching Israel from the Soviet Union. However, Mr Peres, who was speaking in the Knesset Foreign

Affairs and Defense Committee session today, refused to give any details. He only said that nothing has happened so far, and perhaps there is nothing to it and the indications will not progress further. This was learned by our correspondent in the Knesset. Our correspondent reports that apparently Mr Peres' comments were not aimed at the renewal of diplomatic relations with the Soviet Union, but rather at the issue of Soviet Jewry.

Knesset Committee Condemns UK Decisions

TA231620 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 23 Sep 85

[Text] The Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee hasharshly condemned the decision by the British Government to sell sophisticated weapons to Saudi Arabia and Jordan, countries which are in a state of war with Israel. The committee's statement condemns Britain for agreeing to meet with representatives of the PLO, which functions through terrorism and strives to eliminate the State of Israel.

The statement by the committee claims that these decisions by London harm Israel's security and efforts to promote peace in the region. Our correspondent 'Oded Ben-'Ami notes that it is unusual for the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee to issue public statements of this type.

Energy Minister Denounces UK 'Hypocrisy' on Oil

TA231916 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 23 Sep 85

[Text] Energy and Infrastructure Minister Moshe Shahal has sharply condemned the British Government's refusal to sell oil to Israel. In a Manufacturers Association rally in Haifa, Minister Shahal says there is a great deal of hypocrisy in the conduct of Britain, which does not hesitate to sell arms to Saudi Arabia and at the same time continues to oppose the sale of oil to Israel. According to him, the British are holding up the shipment of oil to Israel for which they have already been paid.

The Energy and Infrastructure Ministry will shortly sign an $80 million exchange deal for the purchase of coal, as follows: Israel will pay the country that sells the coal for only half of the deal; the rest will be paid by an international trade company that will, in turn, receive the price equivalent in Israeli exported products.

W. Bank Palestinians Praise Thatcher Invitation

TA240705 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 24 Sep 85 pp 1, 7

[Excerpt] A group of prominent West Bank and Gaza Palestinians has cabled Thatcher to congratulate her surprise initiative in inviting the two members of the PLO to London.

The 28 businessmen, lawyers and other professionals, who are generally identified here as pro-Jordanian moderates, said that Thatcher's decision "is a clear expression of UK awareness and deep understanding of the aspirations of the peoples of this area."

Rabin Rejects Free Political Activity Request

TA231252 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 23 Sep 85 p 3

[Report by Pinhas 'Inbari]

[Text] Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin yesterday conferred with Muhammad al-Nasir, former head of the Hebron area village league, and rejected his request for free political activity in the territories. Rabin said that if he allows free political activity, the PLO supporters will take advantage of this.

Al-Nasir leveled criticism at the "heavy-handed" policy in the territories, saying that the problem in the territories is political and action should be taken to solve it by political means.

Rabin replied that he is aware of the difficulties but had to resort to the heavy-handed policy due to greater terrorist activity. Rabin also expressed hope that peace negotiations will begin with Jordan, but pointed to the partnership between Jordan and the PLO as a big obstacle in this matter.

MA'ARIV on Involvement in USSR Technology Theft

[Editorial Report] Tel Aviv *MA'ARIV* in Hebrew on 20 September on page 21 carries a 3,000-word article by Washington correspondent 'Oded Granot titled "Soviet Intelligence' 'Israeli Connection'" on Israel's indirect involvement in attempts by the Soviet Union to illegally obtain high technology from the United States. Granot begins the article by noting that the "extreme efforts" exerted by the Soviets "to smuggle sophisticated technology from the West" have "forced the Reagan administration to brace for an unprecedented preemptive offensive the scope of which surpasses anything in U.S. history. This campaign was launched in 1981 and codenamed 'Operation Exodus.'" Granot continues to report in general terms on the methods applied by the Americans in the operation to foil the Soviets' attempts and the assessments in Washington that "like his predecessors, Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev is convinced that stealing science-rich technological secrets from the United States is the only way Moscow can overcome its economic woes and simultaneously retain its place in the superpower arms race." Some of the Soviet methods of doing this, as well as a brief analysis of the Soviet way of thinking that leads to technological theft in addition to conventional espionage, are also listed. Granot also provides a U.S. estimate of the wealth of information stolen by the Soviets, which leads him to the Israeli angle in this affair, involving an "obscure and unknown" Israeli company ("Nun"), and the large and prestigious "Tadiran" concern which was evidently innocent and was conned.

Granot then proceeds to tell about two incidents, one in May 1982 and another in 1983, in which — thanks to cooperation between the United States and Israel, as well as third party countries through which the smuggling was to have taken place — the attempts were foiled at the very last moment, just as the agents were about to board the aircraft en route to a Soviet bloc country to deliver the goods. Granot notes that the last case, involving an FRG citizen named Richard Mueller, has not been fully investigated and that consequently the Americans are still "stubbornly refusing to disclose the name of the Israeli company owner" involved in the attempted smuggling of microcomputers to the Soviet Union via Switzerland.

Granot ends the article by saying that "failure has not discouraged the Soviets" and that the U.S. Administration firmly believes that "despite the many aborted cases, U.S. high-technology equipment still finds its way to the Soviet bloc." The administration therefore "exerts quiet pressure on friendly countries to penalize exporters who bypass U.S. export licensing procedures." He claims that "900 customs officers have been recruited for special operations and investigations aimed at foiling smuggling before the sensitive equipment reaches the Soviet Union," and that both the CIA and the FBI have allocated special manpower and financial resources to "Operation Exodus." In addition to this, the Pentagon and the Department of Commerce have stepped up supervision of the loopholes in the export licensing procedures, in one case leading to the discovery of the "krytron" switches that were being delivered to Israel. Granot points out that between the launching of the campaign and December 1983 approximately 2,700 deliveries were intercepted and that by the beginning of this year 350 of 563 detainees were convicted of violating the exports regulations. He says, nevertheless, that "the customs officials believe that electronic components worth more than $10 million were smuggled to the Soviet Union over 3 to 4 years." "Soviet intelligence will spare no efforts to exploit the vulnerability and openness of the U.S. society to save Moscow billions of dollars in research and development costs," and despite the success of "Operation Exodus" to date, Granot says it is believed that "important technology will find its way to the enemies of the United States in the future as well."

Jordanians Blame PLO for Failure of Negotiations

TA231030 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 23 Sep 85 p 2

[Report by Yehuda Litani]

[Text] A resident of the West Bank who recently returned from Jordan, where he spoke with senior Jordanian and PLO elements, said yesterday that the Jordanians are actually blaming the PLO for the failure of the latest negotiations with the United States. The Jordanians say that Yasir 'Arafat had specifically promised them that with the start of the negotiations he would support UN Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338, but at the last moment he broke his word. The man also related that senior PLO elements are blaming the Americans for the breakdown of the negotiations; for having surrendered, as they put it, to Israeli pressure.

The same West Bank resident formed the impression that both sides — Jordan and the PLO — do not think there can be a resumption of negotiations within the next few months. The Jordanians, he added, are expecting a long period of political deadlock.

He also said the PLO offices in Amman, including operational branches transferred from Tunis, are under constant supervision and control by the Jordanian Government. Soldiers in civilian dress are stationed at the entrance to every PLO office and check the identification of every visitor. He also said that telephones in all PLO offices are bugged by the Jordanians.

The Jordanians, he added, are taking firm action to prevent any terrorist acts originating from their border. In one case, an Amman resident who comes from a village in a region close to the border was recently arrested. He was accused of abetting two terrorists who had planned to infiltrate into Israel. The terrorists were captured by a Jordanian Legion patrol.

Knesset Approves Final Reading of Price Law

TA231531 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1400 GMT 23 Sep 85

[Text] The Knesset has approved the Price Stabilization Law for goods and services in its final reading. The law extends until June next year the arrangements stipulated in the regulations issued upon the adoption of the economic plan. However, the law contains a few changes in contrast to the regulations; one of them states that wholesalers and retailers will also have to receive approval from the prices supervisor for any price hikes.

Price Index Increases 2.2 Percent in September

TA231335 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1300 GMT 23 Sep 85

[Text] The consumer price index increased by 2.2 percent during the first 2 weeks of September. This was reported by the Central Bureau of Statistics. The most prominent increases were recorded in the prices of fruits and vegetables. Our economic affairs correspondent Me'ir Einstein reports that officials in the economics ministries in Jerusalem expressed their satisfaction over this data, saying that this is evidence of stable prices.

Histadrut, Government Agree on Wage Adjustments

TA240544 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 24 Sep 85

[Text] More agreements between the Histadrut and the government over wages: From next month, fringe benefit payments will be updated, and it will be possible to give workers a raise in the civil service ratings; also, the lowest two ratings for academics in the social sciences, along with the engineers and technicians. This means a wage increase for the lowest-paid workers in those fields after their ratings are eliminated.

Scientist First To Enter PRC on Israeli Passport

TA201303 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 20 Sep 85 pp 1, 11

[Report by Avraham Peleg]

[Excerpt] Professor Yosef Shapira, an Israeli scientist, participated in a scientific conference in the PRC. Prof Shapira, president of the Israeli association for radio sciences, was told by his hosts that he was the first Israeli scientist to enter the PRC on an Israeli passport.

Another Israeli scientist, Prof Ya'aqob Ronen, also asked to participate in the conference in the PRC but did not receive an entry permit.

Prof Shapira and his wife, Rut, were given entry permits after a prolonged struggle and intervention by the international union for radio sciences which pressured Beijing into allowing the Israeli scientist to enter the country. The couple received the permits in Paris, 6 days before the opening of the conference in Beijing.

Coptic Tourists From Egypt To Make First Visit

TA201216 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 20 Sep 85 p 2

[Report by 'Aqiva Eldar]

[Text] For the first time since the border between Israel and Egypt was opened, a group of Coptic tourists from Egypt is to visit Israel. The group, which numbers approximately 50 Egyptian tourists from Alexandria, will arrive in Israel next leek, and will probably also visit the Dayr al-Sultan church in Jerusalem.

A longstanding dispute exists between the Coptic church and the Ethiopian church over the control of the chapel within the church.

The Egyptian Government had informed the Israeli authorities that it feared the Coptic tourists might offend members of the Ethiopian church, and for this reason they had not permitted Egyptian tourists of this faith to visit Israel until now.

The Coptic-Ethiopian dispute is a central issue in discussions on ways to improve Israeli-Egyptian relations. Political sources in Jerusalem attach great importance to the visit of the Coptic tourists, and consider it another step by President Mubarak toward the normalization of relations with Israel.

Katyushas Fall in Galilee; No Casualties

TA240545 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English
0500 GMT 24 Sep 85

[Text] Several katyusha rockets landed in the Galilee panhandle overnight. There were no injuries, but one of the rockets caused light damage.

IDF Force Kills 2 Terrorists in Security Strip

TA231410 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1400 GMT 23 Sep 85

[Text] Two terrorists were killed last night north of Hasbayya in the security zone. Our forces did not sustain any injuries. The IDF spokesman reports that an IDF force spotted two terrorists in the area and opened fire in their direction.

Their bodies were found afterward, next to which their personal weapons, explosive materials, a mine, and grenades were found.

Hostile Attacks Increase 100 Percent This Year

TA230951 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 23 Sep 85 pp 1-2

[Report by Re'uven Shapira and Gid'on Alon]

[Excerpt] During the first 8 months of this year, a 100-percent increase in attacks committed against a background of hostile activity was noted. From January-August this year, 100 terrorist attacks were noted compared with 49 during the same period last year. Of the terrorist incidents, 52 involved the planting of explosive charges, compared with 19 charges planted during the same period last year. These details were revealed by Police Affairs Minister Hayim Bar-Lev and the Police Force commander, Commissioner David Kraus, at a Cabinet session on the fight against crime.

Arab Youth Shot, Killed in Jerusalem 24 Sep

TA240540 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English
0500 GMT 24 Sep 85

[Text] About an hour ago an Arab youth was shot and killed in Salah al-Din Street in Jerusalem, near Herod's gate of the old city. The Voice of Israel's reporter said the youth tried to molest a Jewish woman. Her companion drew a revolver and shot the youth. The man was arrested.

ASL Captures Terrorist Squad, Suicide Driver

TA191509 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1446 GMT 19 Sep 85

[Text] The army of southern Lebanon [ASL] has captured a terrorist squad that was planning a suicide attack in the security strip at the beginning of the week, using a car loaded with 1/4 ton of explosive material. The ASL personnel are also holding the young man who was to have been the suicide driver of the car bomb, Muhammad al-Masri, age 28.

Syrian television and the Lebanese media have transmitted a recorded interview with him prior to his departure on the mission.

Our correspondent Hayim Hecht reports that from an interrogation of the squad, it turns out that those controlling Al-Masri, members of a pro-Syrian, Al-Nasirite organization with headquarters in Sidon, worked on the Shi'ite youth so that he believed he would come out of the mission alive.

Chief of Staff Defends IDF Soldiers' Conduct

TA231530 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1500 GMT 23 Sep 85

[Text] The chief of staff says that a considerable number of reports on IDF soldiers' mistreatment of the population in Judaea and Samaria are incorrect. According to the chief of staff, these reports are only intended to create a muddled atmosphere and to harm the implementation of the soldiers' task. Our correspondent says this was Lieutenant General Moshe Levi's reaction to a check he initiated after complaints were made about the soldiers' conduct. The chief of staff emphasized that the major task of the activity in Judaea, Samaria, and Gaza, that of preventing terrorist acts, is carried out in a firm and resolute manner but while guarding the residents' dignity.

Our correspondent Arye Gus says that today two Hebron residents complained about the IDF soldiers' tough attitude. At the same time they said the soldiers' treatment has improved compared to last week.

'Akko Arab Councilmen Condemn Terrorist Act

TA231904 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1823 GMT 23 Sep 85

[Text] 'Akko, 23 Sep (ITIM) — The three Arab members of the 'Akko municipality today issued a manifesto condemning the terrorist act that took place in their town. The manifesto states that "on behalf of the 'Akko Arab residents, we condemn the criminal act of planting a bomb on Ben-'Ami Street, when the pedestrians who move along this street from 'Akko and its surroundings, both Jews and Arabs, could be hurt."

The manifesto further states that the Arab population hereby declares it will not allow anybody to disturb the relationship of coexistence and friendship prevailing between the Jewish and Arab residents.

The three Arab members of the municipality add in their manifesto that they will act to conduct a joint and persistent Jewish-Arab struggle for 'Akko to continue as an example for Jewish-Arab coexistence and fraternity. The manifesto is signed by Hilmi (Sha'fi), the deputy mayor, and Ramzi Khuri and Muhammad Sha'ban, the other two members of the local council. The three also met with the commander of the Galilee District Police and demanded that he take action to capture the person who planted the bomb, bring him to trial, and punish him.

Antiracist Organization Formed To Oppose Kahane

TA240733 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 24 Sep 85 p 3

[Report by Le'a Levavi]

[Excerpt] Tel Aviv — A new antiracist organization whose members range from MAPAM and Peace Now activists to Likud party workers was launched yesterday in the wake of Knesset Member Meir Kahane's stormy rally in Giv'atayim on Sunday. The group, calling itself Ma'ane (Response), is to ask Police Minister Hayim Bar-Lev to forbid all future demonstrations by Kahane's KAKH Party and will press MK's [Knesset members] to suspend Kahane from the Knesset, the organizers said at a press conference.

CAPTAC Conference Opens in Libreville 23 Sep

AB231928 Paris AFP in French 1338 GMT 23 Sep 85

[Text] Libreville, 23 Sep (AFP)—The Central African Posts and Telecommunications Administrations Conference (CAPTAC) opened on Monday in Libreville. These sessions, which will be held throughout the week in the Gabonese capital, will, first of all, bring together CAPTAC's executive committee and experts and then, on Friday and Saturday, the ministers of the eleven member-countries of the organization (Angola, Burundi, Cameroon, the Central African Republic, Congo, Gabon, Equatorial Guinea, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Chad, and Zaire).

According to Mr Kengne Nguiffo (Cameroon), the secretary general of CAPTAC, the deliberations will focus "essentially on the means to take to make up for the shortfalls in the pan-African network." Mr Zacharie Myboto, the Gabonese minister for information, posts and telecommunications, who opened the sessions, stressed that much remains to be done and expressed the hope that CAPTAC will become "a true instrument of cooperation in the African subregion."

Representatives of the International Telcommunications Union, the Universal Postal Union, the OAU, and the French Ministries of Telecommunications and Cooperation, will participate in these sessions.

LIBYA

Al-Qadhdhafi Addresses Basic Popular Congress Meeting

LD240905 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 0115 GMT 24 Sep 85

[Text] The brother leader of the Al-Fatih Revolution yesterday evening attended a meeting of the Basic Popular Congress in Tripoli's Al-Andalus Quarter within the framework of his enciting and guiding role to entrench and assert the people's authority. He made a number of observations concerning the progress of the debates of the basic popular congresses to draw up an agenda for the coming session on domestic and foreign policy for the year 1986.

JANA: Bourguiba In Coma; Power Struggle Begins

LD231731 Tripoli JANA in English 1641 GMT 23 Sep 85

[Text] Tunis, Muharram 7, Sept. 23, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — Informed sources in the Tunisian capital confirmed that the health of Tunisian President Habib Bourguiba has worsened and he is now in coma.

The source added that a struggle for power has begun in Tunisian political circles by rival politicians wishing to succeed Bourguiba and seize complete power for themselves.

The different political wings have begun promoting their candidate for president with the wing of Mzali and Wassila at the forefront.

The Kuwaiti *AL-WATAN* newspaper, quoted an informed Tunisian source as saying that a split has occured between Wassila Bourguiba and Prime Minister Mzali who wants to seize power for himself.

In the light of the struggle for power in Tunis as President Bourguiba lies in a coma the revolutionary forces in Tunisia should take power for the people and decide the struggle.

Bourguiba Near Death

LD241000 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 0115 GMT 24 Sep 85

[Text] Habib Achour, secretary general of the General Union of Tunisian Workers (UGTT) has confirmed the intensification of political struggle in Tunisia for the succession following President Bourguiba.

In a statement published by the Kuwaiti *AL-WATAN* yesterday he said that Mzali is exploiting the return of the Tunisian workers from the Jamahiriyah in order to be paramount in power in Tunisia. He is working hard to succeed Bourguiba, who is in the throes of death.

Habib Achour explained that Mzali and his aides are directly behind the social tension currently prevailing in Tunisia as a result of their plan aimed at weakening the union and trying to check its influence. He explained that Mzali and his aides tried to exploit the return of the Tunisian workers from the Jamahiriyah against the union for the purpose of controlling power. He said that the Mzali wing seeks from its campaign against the union to drag the union afresh into the orbit of the Destourian Party. He affirmed that politics are behind this campaign. Those concerned in this believe that destroying the union as an independent organization will pave the way for them to succeed Bourguiba unopposed.

In addition, informed sources in the Tunisian capital have confirmed that a powerful struggle for power has begun to intensify among the sides of the various political wings in Tunisia. These sources stated that the wings that are struggling for power in Tunisia and which owe allegiance to various parties that differ from one another politically and ideologically have each begun to rally their elements to secure their way to power.

These sources explained that Prime Minister Mohamed Mzali and Wassils Bourguiba, wife of the Tunisian President, head the wings that are struggling to succeed Bourguiba, who, reports have confirmed, has fallen into a prolonged coma and whose health has seriously deteriorated.

Announcement of UK-PLO Talks in London Dismissed

LD231806 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 2015 GMT 22 Sep 85

[Station commentary]

[Excerpts] [Words indistinct] a great victory and an important turning point in the American policy.

As for the announcement by the British prime minister in Aqaba that her foreign secretary, Geoffrey Howe, will confer with two Palestinians, who are PLO members and do not believe in what she called terrorist actions, the reactionary Arab rulers consider as [word indistinct] victory. [words indistinct] The Palestinian right wing also said that it is a victory and an implicit recognition of the PLO by the British Government. How silly are these victories, if we can call them victories, to go along with the reactionary Arab regimes [words indistinct]. The matter does not deserve more than feeling sorry for these regimes which gave everything and are now running after a mirage and every small straw to save their faces in front of the Arab masses, until they reached the extent of complete self-deception, like Juha [Arab folklore personality], who created a rumor then believed it.

These reactionary Arab regimes, together with the Palestinian right-wing, who applaud Thatcher's announcement of the decision on the meeting between her foreign secretary and two PLO members, and describe it as a historic turning point in the march of the so-called peaceful solution, are ignoring the fact of that the British Government is the one who decided with whom they will sit down with from the Jordanian-Palestinian delegation, and are ignoring the fact that she ridiculed the struggle of the Palestinian Arab people when she described the struggle of the Palestinians as terrorism, and called on the PLO to abandon terrorism so that Britain could officially recognize the PLO.

The Palestinian right wing and the reactionary Arab regimes expose the extent of their complete bankruptcy when they cling to these American and British stances and consider them as a victory and a turning point in the march of the so-called peace. The so-called peace which they think can be achieved by prostrating themselves and begging.

Secretary General Rajab Begins Visit to Turkey

For Ankara and Tripoli coverage of the visit to Turkey by Muhammad al-Zarruq Rajab, secretary general of the General People's Committee, including his meetings with Turkish Prime Minister Turgut Ozal and President Kenan Evren, see the Turkey section of the 24 September Western Europe *DAILY REPORT* and subsequent issues.

MOROCCO

Equatorial Guinean Foreign Minister Arrives

LD212236 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 2200 GMT 21 Sep 85

[Text] Mr Marcelino Nguema Onguene, the Equatorial Guinea minister of state for foreign affairs and cooperation, arrived this evening in Rabat carrying a written message to His Majesty King Hassan II from Mr Obiang Nguema Mbasogo, the presidnet of Equatorial Guinea.

In Sale Airport, Mr Onguene expressed his satisfaction with being in Morocco. He pointed out that his visit comes within the framework of consolidating bilateral relations between the two countries.

He was received by Mr Azzedine Laraki, the minister of national education and acting minister of foreign affairs, and the ambassador of Equatorial Guinea to Rabat.

SUDAN

Defense Minister Cited on Military Ties With Libya

JN231511 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1432 GMT 23 Sep 85

[Text] Manama, 23 Sep (SUNA) — Major General 'Uthman 'Abdallah, member of the Transitional Military Council and defense minister, has declared that the Sudanese-Libyan military cooperation program has entered the implementation stage in accordance with the military agreement signed by the two countries last July. In a statement to the Qatari newspaper *AL-RAYAH*, the minister said that Libya has started sending the military supplies that had been agreed upon, including 50 trucks, trailers, and other equipment.

The minister told *AL-RAYAH* that Sudan will also receive spare parts for Soviet-made Sudanese weapons, which have been without spare parts for many years. He said that the military agreement also provides for the training of Sudanese pilots and other military cadres in Libyan military academies.

The minister affirmed that the Sudanese-Libyan rapprochement will not affect Sudanese-U.S. relations and that the United States is still supplying military equipment to Sudan.

Prime Minister Receives U.S. Ambassador

JN231745 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1715 GMT 23 Sep 85

[Text] Khartoum, 23 Sep (SUNA) — Prime Minister Dr al-Jazuli Daf'allah received U.S. Ambassador Alexander Horan in Khartoum here today. In a statement to the press following the meeting, his excellency the ambassador explained that the meeting dealt with relations between the two countries, ways to bolster them, and aid the U.S. Government is extending to Sudan to overcome the consequences of famine and drought. The ambassador also briefed the prime minister on his consultations with the U.S. officials during his annual vacation in Washington.

Minister Orders Media To Discourage Demonstrations

JN231521 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1423 GMT 23 Sep 85

[Text] Khartoum, 23 Sep (SUNA) — Minister of Culture and Information Muhammad Bashir Hamid has announced that he ordered the news media affiliated with his ministry to refrain from publishing or broadcasting any political statements encouraging gatherings or demonstrations in compliance with the Council of Ministers recent order banning processions and demonstrations during the transitional period until the state of emergency in the country is lifted.

This came in his statements during the prime minister's periodic meeting with media and press officials at the Council of Ministers General Secretariat this morning.

The minister also said that the news media at this particular stage should give equal opportunities to all political forces in the country and focus on national issues, pointing out that radio and television interviews should be granted to all the political forces and should deal with national issues. He added that interviews should not be given only to individuals or certain sides, but that there should be a dialogue between all parties in order to avoid reactions that may result from individual interviews.

The minister's statements came after two popular processions. The first was organized by the National Alliance near the Egyptian Embassy last Tuesday to condemn the Egyptian Government's position on deposed Numayri's extradition; the second was organized by the General Union of Organizations and Trade Unions last Saturday in order to condemn John Garang's military stand.

Finance Minister Addresses Cabinet on Budget

JN231118 Khartoum SUNA in English 1030 GMT 23 Sep 85

[Text] Khartoum, Sep 23 (SUNA) — Finance and Economic Planning Minister 'Awad 'Abd al-Majid has declared that a study on the correction of the course of the Sudanese economy has been outlined and will shortly be presented to the Council of Ministers for endorsement.

Addressing the Council of Ministers on the proposed "general and development" budget, for 1985-86 the minister said that following endorsement of the study, parties and other political forces would be invited to take part in a national conference in which the study would be discussed further.

The minister said he formed a committee to discuss scientific methods for lowering the cost of living and submit recommendations within two-month's time after the endoresement of the new budget.

He remarked that although a radical solution for the economic crisis required a long time "the general poverty most of our people currently suffer could not be ignored."

The minister said a step towards that end had earlier been made by this ministry when gasoline prices were decreased.

He said the step had brought no profit to the ordinary man. "what actually happened was that the public treasury lost 150 million pounds" he said.

Meanwhile finance and economic planning minister has ordered the formation of special teams to assess the problems that hinder better performance in the public sector corporations.

Democratic Party Condemns Garang's 'Attitude'

JN231134 Khartoum SUNA in English 1045 GMT 23 Sep 85

[Text] Khartoum, Sept 23 (SUNA) — The People's Democratic Party released here yesterday a communique on the latest events in southern Sudan, on which the People's Armed Forces also had issued a communique describing the escalation of military operations by Garang's forces in the south and west of the country and also in the southern areas of White and Blue Nile.

The party's communique indicated that since April upheaval the people adopted the dialogue as an ideal formula to peacefully solve the southern problem. And that despite the aggressive military operations carried out by the rebel forces against the people and People's Armed Forces, the transitional government, parties and political alliance have continued exerting their efforts to bring about peaceful solution to the problem, but Garang, rebels leader, did not pay any attention to those efforts and continued escalating the war. The communique said the People's Democratic Party, which believes that Garang's movements demonstrate his incredibility to search a solution for the southern problem, condemns and denounces firmly Garang's inpatriotic attitude and his endeavours incompatible with Sudanese morals.

The communique called for supporting the People's Armed Forces, the TMC and Cabinet in their efforts to bring about a peaceful solution to the problem and the Cabinet's decision to ban processions.

The communique appealed for condemning violence in political activities and urged the government, political forces and southern citizens to accelerate holding of the conference on the southern problem, for the sake of reaching a lasting solution in this respect.

TUNISIA

Four Libyan Mirage Aircraft Violate Airspace

LD232118 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic
2100 GMT 23 Sep 85

[Text] At 1507 today, four Libyan Mirage aircraft violated Tunisian airspace coming from Adh Dhahibat and heading for Ramadah over which they flew twice in two groups of two aircraft each at 1513. Immediately, Tunisian Air Force interceptors took off from [name indistinct] base while the Libyan aircraft returned to Libyan airspace.

Bourguiba, Mzali Meet; Appointments Announced

LD240928 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic
1200 GMT 23 Sep 85

[Summary] President Bourguiba had talks this morning in the Palace of the Republic in Carthage with Prime Minister Mohamed Mzali. After the talks Mr Mzali made the following statement:

The president of the Republic has made the following appointments:

Mohamed Ben Naceur as governor of Monastir in lieu of Mr Mansour Skhiri, who was appointed director of the Office of the President of the Republic;

Mr Abdelmajid Karoui, ambassador and director general of protocol, is appointed ambassador and assistant permanent representative of Tunisia to the United Nations;

Mr Abdelaziz Kacem is appointed directorgeneral of Tunisian radio and television.

Bourguiba Meets Appointees

LD241257 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic
1100 GMT 24 Sep 85

[Text] President Habib Bourguiba received in his office this morning in the Palace of the Republic in Carthage and in the presence of Mr Mohamed Mzali, prime minister and interior minister, Information Minister Abderrazak Kefi, who was accompanied by Abdelaziz Kacem, the new director general of national radio and television, and Moncef Ben Mahmoud, the new director of protocol.

Mr Abderrazak Kefi conveyed to the head of state the expression of love and loyalty of his sons, the employees of the national radio and television, and their gratitude for the high paternal attention of his excellency toward them, and also their determination to continue their mission under Bourguiba's gracious care.

The information minister also affirmed to the Supreme Combatant the thanks and gratitude of Mr Moncef Ben Mahmoud and Mr Abdelaziz Kacem for the renewed confidence of his excellency in their respective persons, their cherishing further work under his valuable directives and advice, and their determination to do their utmost to rise to the level of the dear confidence that the head of state has placed in them.

The meeting was attended by Mr Mansour Skhiri, director of the Presidential Office.

Bourguiba Takes 'Usual Walk'

LD241029 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic
1000 GMT 24 Sep 85

[Text] President Habib Bourguiba this morning held a working session at the Palace of the Republic in Carthage with Mohamed Mzali, prime minister and minister of the interior, in the presence of Minister Mansour Skhiri, director of the Presidential Office.

This morning the president took his usual walk, accompanied by Mahmoud Ben Hassine, official in charge of a mission at the Presidency of the Republic.

French External Relations Minister Arrives

LD200347 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic
2319 GMT 19 Sep 85

[Excerpt] Roland Dumas, the French minister of external relations, this evening arrived at Tunis-Carthage International Airport on a working visit. The French minister pointed out in a statement to the press that his visit was within the framework of the existing relations, which are based upon a strong and honest friendship between Tunisia and France; issues of mutual interest; relations between the countries of the Arab Maghreb and the EEC

Bourguiba Receives Dumas

LD201335 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic
1200 GMT 20 Sep 85

[Text] President Habib Bourguiba this morning received Roland Dumas, French minister for external relations, in the presence of Beji Caid Essebsi, foreign minister; Mahmoud Mestiri, minister of state to the foreign minister; Hedi Mabrouk, Tunisia's ambassador to Paris; and the French ambassador to Tunis.

Roland Dumas made a statement in which he said: I was (?received) By President Habib Bourguiba and was very pleased to meet him once again and convey to him the message from the president of the French Republic [words indistinct]. We discussed current issues. I myself came to Tunisia to see the situation in the region, and particularly to Tunisia in the wake of recent events to conslidate relations between Tunisia and France and to express to President Bourguiba France's solidarity — which is what took place this morning under the captionof an old and deep friendship.

French Socialist Arrives as Guest of Mzali

LD200403 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic
2300 GMT 19 Sep 85

[Excerpts] Mr Lionel Jospin, the first secretary of the French Socialist Party, yesterday arrived in Tunis on a visit to our country at the invitation of Mohamed Mzali. The French guest told the press that he hoped that his visit would strengthen the long-standing friendly bonds between the Socialist Destourian Party and the French Socialist Party. He added that his visit would enable the two sides to exchange views on the situation inside France and Tunisia, on socialism and economic development as well as the situation in the Mediterranean.

LE MONDE on Status of Tunisian-French Relations

PM231431 Paris LE MONDE in French 22-23 Sep 85 p 4

[Michel Deure dispatch: "Dumas in Morocco and Tunisia"]

[Text] Tunis — The talks which [French External Relations Minister] Dumas had with the Tunisian leaders have led political circles to stress that France reiterated the importance it attaches to Tunisia's security and territorial integrity at a time when there is no sign of detente in the crisis with Tripoli. However, Mr Dumas made no public reference to possible military aid, which the Tunisians seem to think they can rely on should the need arise.

Referring to economic cooperation, Mr Dumas recalled that, when he was European affairs minister, he was the first to state that it was vital to settle problems relating to other Mediterranean countries at the same time as the community was expanded to include Spain and Portugal, and that pledges had been made in that connection.

The minister took advantage of this short "fact-finding visit" to have a telephone conversation with Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi, and PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat.

The French external relations minister's visit coincided with that of [Socialist Party First Secretary] Lionel Jospin, guest of Prime Minister Mohamed Mzali, who is also secretary general of the Destruction Socialist Party.

Relations between the two parties, which have often been distant and even bad in the past, have gradually improved.

The visit by Mr Jospin, who was received by President Bourguiba in Carthage, crowns the rapprochement, which is now to take practical form in the creation of working groups, and in increased exchange visits by delegations.

Mr Jospin explained that his visit was particularly justified since Tunisia is now moving toward political pluralism despite the difficulties encountered. However, since his program was very full, he was unable to meet some opposition representative as he had intended.

On the other hand, he visited the headquarters of the Tunisian General Federaiton of Labor, where he had talks with Secretary

General Habib Anchour, and members of the executive committee, about the social situation in the country and the serious deterioration in relations between the governme trade unions.

ETHIOPIA

Mengistu Receives Ugandan Foreign Minister

EA191943 Addis Ababa in Amharic To Neighboring Countries 1600 GMT 19 Sep 85

[Text] Comrade Mengistu Haile Mariam, The Workers Party of Ethiopia [WPC] Central Committee secretary general, Provisional Military Administrative Council chairman and commander in chief of the revolutionary armed forces, today received a message from General Tito Okello Lutwa, president of the Ugandan Military Council and the country's leader.

The message was delivered by Mr Olara Otunnu, the Ugandan foreign minister, in a ceremony held at the private office of the secretary general. The message focused on the long-standing relations between revolutionary Ethiopia and Uganda, and the situation in Uganda since the recent change of leadership in that country.

Present were Comrade Goshu Wolde, WPC Central Committee member and foreign minister, and Mr Robert Ucungi, Ugandan ambassador to revolutionary Ethiopia.

[Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic at 1700 GMT on 19 September carries a report on Mengistu's reception of the Ugandan foreign minister. This has been compared with the Addis Ababa in Amharic To Neighboring Countries version and has been found to be identical, but adds the following paragraphs:

In a speech given on the occasion, Comrade Mengistu Haile Mariam said it is revolutionary Ethiopia's desire that the long-standing friendship between Uganda and revolutionary Ethiopia should be strengthened, and expressed his best wishes for the success of the efforts by the Ugandan people and government for peace and development.

Mr Olara Otunnu said that the new Ugandan Government strongly desires to strengthen relations between Ethiopia and Uganda, which are based on a firm foundation. He also explained the current efforts to create peace, unity, and a stable political situation in the country. (adding paragraphs)]

Mengistu Returns Following Visit to PDRY

EA231224 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 0900 GMT 23 Sep 85

[Text] Comrade Mengistu Haile Mariam, Workers Party of Ethiopia [WPE] Central Committee secretary general, Provisional Military Administrative Council chairman, and commander in chief of the Revolutionary Armed Forces, arrived in Asmara this morning following a friendly 2-day visit to the PDRY. During his visit, the comrade secretary general met with Comrade 'Ali Nasir Muhammad al-Hasani, Yemen's Socialist Union Party Central Committee secretary general and that country's leader, during which they discussed bilateral relations, the current situation in Africa, and international issues, and also visited development institutions.

Comrade Mengistu Haile Mariam was present at a public meeting in (Ashian) yesterday, and made a wide-ranging speech to the people gathered there on the two sisterly countries' strong relations and firm friendship.

Mengistu was briefed on political, economic, and social progress in [Ashian] Province and visited development institutions that indicate strong progress in the PDRY's economic development. During his stay in the PDRY, our comrade revolutionary leader was given a colorful and rousing welcome, and send-off by party and government officials and the people. The people expressed their love and respect for Comrade Mengistu Haile Mariam and the Ethiopian people and firm solidarity, by public meetings and by lining the streets, clapping their hands, and [shouting] various slogans.

Upon arrival in Asmara from Aden this morning, Comrade Mengistu Haile Mariam was welcomed by Lieutenant General Tesfaye Gebre-Kidan, Workers Party of Ethiopia Central Committee Politburo member and defense minister; Comrade Tefere Wonde, WPE Central Committee member and first secretary of WPE committee for Eritrean Region; Comrade Major General Marid Neguse, WPE Central Committee member and Eritrean regional administrator; and commander of the 2d revolutionary army [2d Divison]; WPE Central Committee members; and force commanders. During this ceremony, our comrade revolutionary leader was saluted by the waiting honor guard and inspected it.

Asrat Wolde-Led Delegation Leaves For USSR

EA201827 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 0930 GMT 20 Sep 85

[Summary] A delegation led by Comrade Asrat Wolde, Workers Party of Ethiopia Central Committee member and deputy chairman of the Central Audit Commission, left for Moscow today on the first leg of a tour of the Soviet Union, the GDR, and Hungary, where they will exchange experiences.

KENYA

Moi Appeals for 'Immediate Cease-Fire' in Uganda

EA231550 Nairobi KNA in English 1520 GMT 23 Sep 85

[Text] Nairobi 23 Sep — H.E. President Daniel Arap Moi today appealed to the fighting forces in Uganda to observe an immediate cease-fire to enable the country's peace talks which resume in Nairobi tomorrow to proceed without any hindrance. The president made the appeal in a statement issued from State House, Nairobi, this afternoon.

President Moi has also appealed to the National Resistance Army, (NRA), and the Uganda National Liberation Army, (UNLA), who are the main contenders in Uganda, not to engage in any military tactical manouvres or movements which might cause suspicion from each other.

Meanwhile, President Moi this afternoon held discussions with the chairman of the Military Council and Uganda head of state, Gen. Tito Okello.

The talks were held at State House, Nairobi.

SOMALIA

Italian Prime Minister Arrives for 3-Day Visit

EA201816 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali
1400 GMT 20 Sep 85

[Excerpts] Italian Prime Minister Bettino Craxi, accompanied by his wife, Anna Craxi, and a large delegation, arrived at Mogadishu International Airport at 1530 today for a 3-day official visit to Somalia.

Answering questions put to him in the airport's VIP lounge, Prime Minister Craxi said the reason for his visit is to find ways to strengthen the good relations and cooperation between Somalia and Italy in the coming years. He added that his talks with Somali leaders will include seeking solutions to some of the urgent problems facing Somalia and other matters which require a systematic implementation program.

Answering a question on the Italian Government's assistance to countries affected by the prolonged drought, Mr Craxi said his government has earmarked $1 million for the next 18 months. [sentence as heard] The countries affected by the prolonged drought, including Somalia, will receive food and medical assistance.

The Italian prime minister added that his government is greatly concerned about the worsening security situation in some countries. He added that his government will endeavor to find lasting solutions to conflicts through negotiations. He added that he hopes the prevailing problems of this region are solved in the same way, with a genuine desire for lasting peace.

Received by Siad Barre

EA202143 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali
1700 GMT 20 Sep 85

[Excerpt] Somali President Challe Mohamed Siad Barre received Italian Prime Minister Bettino Craxi at the presidency this afternoon. In a brief conversation, Challe Siad and Mr Craxi expressed the hope that the Italian prime minister's visit will help cement bilateral relations and cooperation.

Arms Request Rejected

LD221747 Rome International Service in Italian
1620 GMT 22 Sep 85

[Text] Somalia has asked Italy to step up assistance with manufactured products, including arm supplies. The question of arms arose yesterday during the second day of talks between President of the Council of Ministers Craxi and Siad Barre and also during a meeting which the Somali president had with Italian journalists in Chisimaio. We would like to be in a position, said Siad Barre, to defend ourselves against the aggression by Ethiopia against us in Ogaden. We have aligned ourselves with the West and the West must help us to redress the superiority which the Ethiopians have acquired as a result of the intervention, also direct intervention, by the USSR and Cuba.

Later, aboard the aircraft which was taking him from Chisimaio to Mogadishu, President of the Council of Ministers Craxi commented on the issue. He told the journalists that 2 years ago, 100 tanks were given free to Somalia. They were no longer used by the Italian Army. Three conditions were placed, he said, on that gift. New Somali requests for tanks and more advanced weapons do not coincide with legal norms applicable in Italy as far as arms supplies are concerned. Besides, there is a law which forbids sales of arms to countries in a state of war. In addition, Italian policy is directed in another direction, that is to say in the direction of seeking a peaceful way to settle conflicts and favoring, as italways does, the path of negotiations.

Craxi Tours Camp

EA221719 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali
1400 GMT 22 Sep 85

[Excerpt] The visiting Italian prime minister, Mr Bettino Craxi, accompanied by the first vice president of the SDR, Challe Lieutenant-General Mohamed Ali Samantar, who is also the SDR defense minister, today visited Hargeisa, the capital of the northwest region. During their visit, the Italian prime minister and the SDR first vice president toured the Hargeisa general hospital, particularly the section where those injured in the recent Abyssinian air raid on some villages in the SDR are being treated.

The SDR and Italian officials, accompanied by Challe Colonel Ahmed Mohamed Farrah, who is a member of the Political Committee of the SRSP and the SDR minister for water development and mineral resources, also visited the Ganat refugee camp, where 26,300 refugees are staying. A camp administrator told the Italian and SDR officials that most of the refugees had arrived recently from areas colonized by Abyssinia. The administrator of the Ganat refugee camp briefed the officials on the problems facing the refugees, particularly scarcity of essential requirements such as food, water, and basic health needs.

Craxi Attends Banquet

EA211819 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali
1115 GMT 21 Sep 85

[Excerpts] Challe Mohamed Siad Barre, SRSP secretary general and president of the Somali Democratic Republic [SDR], last night hosted at the presidential residence a banquet for visiting Italian Prime Minister Bettino Craxi and Anna Craxi. The banquet was also attended by the SDR's first lady, Mr Bettino's [as heard] delegation, and the SDR's first and second vice presidents. During the banquet, Challe Siad and Mr Craxi gave speeches.

In his speech, Challe Siad said Mr Bettino's visit to the SDR is of vital importance, as it is the first by an Italian prime minister. Challe Siad said Mr Craxi's visit will not only help strengthen bilateral relations but open a new chapter of collaboration and relations and enable the two sides to exchange views on international affairs of mutual interest. Challe Siad added that exchanges of high-level visits between Somalia and Italy during the last 10 years have greatly helped to promote bilateral cooperation in economic, cultural, and social affairs. He said that mutual understanding of language and culture would help to bring the two peoples and countries together.

Commenting on international problems, Challe Siad said that the current conflicts in the Horn of Africa, the Middle East, the Gulf, South Africa, and Namibia all pose threats to peace, and that the world cannot, therefore, afford to ignore them. Elaborating on the Horn of Africa issue, Challe Siad said the Horn has become a war zone and an area of instability, a situation that has caused immense suffering to the region's inhabitants, who have become the victims of Abyssinian colonialism and people who have been forcibly denied their right to self-determination.

Challe Siad said that the Horn of Africa is a strategic area and has thus attracted the interest of the superpowers, which has served to complicate further the already delicate situaiton brought about by the Abyssinians with the aid of their allies. Helped by its allies, Abyssinia has further tightened its grip on the people it colonized and has intensified its attacks on its neighbors, particularly Somalia. The president said the region's problems have been exacerbated by the presence of foreign forces on the so-called borders. He said that the only solution to the problem in the region is respect for the rights of the disputing parties. Challe Siad said the SDR's support for people's rights has infuriated the Abyssinians, who have responded by making constant raids on the SDR. He said Abyssinia has remained in occupation of two Somali regions, Goldogob and Balamballe, ever since 1982. Challe Said said that in the latest such provocative attacks on the SDR on 15-16 September women and children were killed, and a number of houses were destroyed.

Challe Siad said Abyssinia's constant attacks on Somalia and the suppression of the people under its rule have caused a constant stream of many refugees into Somalia, placing its economy under enormous strain. He declared that Somalia has always been and remainsready to engage in a dialogue with the Abyssinians with a view to finding a permanent solution to the Horn conflict, but on condition that the Amharas withdraw from the Goldogob and Balamballe regions. The head of state said that because Italy is conversant with the problems of the region, it should help by mediating in the dispute.

Challe Siad said there is an urgent need for cooperation in solving worldwide economic problems as a vital means of advancing the cause of humanity. The president said the current serious drought and the refugee problem in Africa place a heavy burden on the already poor economies of the Third World.

In his speech, Italian Prime Minister Bettino Craxi expressed gratitude for the warm welcome accorded him and his delegation. He said their talks and meetings with Somali leaders will contribute considerably to strengthening the existing friendly relations and cooperation between Somalia and Italy. On his country's economic aid to Third World countries, Mr Craxi said Italy is trying to step up its technical and economic aid to Third World countries, particularly Somalia. On the numerous problems facing the world at large, Prime Minister Craxi said such conflicts should not be resolved by means of military force, for that would only fan the already existing flames. Mr Craxi cited as examples the Middle East, Cambodia, the Horn of Africa, and other areas where tension and conflict prevail

Turning to Africa, he said that the fighting and many other prevalent problems need to be resolved peacefully. Mr Craxi singled out the crisis in the Horn of Africa, saying that it can be resolved only by means of peaceful negotiations, with human rights and dignity being taken into consideration. Mr Craxi said that the grave problem currently prevailing in the Horn of Africa is an issue of serious concern to the world at large and requires a just and lasting solution. The Italian prime minister added that his government's policy is to strive for the solution of problems throughout the world by peaceful means and also to preserve the existence and sovereignty of every nation and country; those countries occupying territories not belonging to them should withdraw.

With reference to the presence of Cuban troops in Africa, Mr Craxi said that they are not tourists, although they claim to have been invited. The truth is that they constitute a form of neocolonialism. He added that one day they would withdraw from Africa under pressure.

Official Talks Begin

EA211827 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 1115 GMT 21 Sep 85

[Excerpt] The official talks on strengthening economic, cultural and social cooperation between Somalia and Italy opened at the People's Hall in Mogadishu this morning between senior Somali Democratic Republic [SDR] Government officials and the delegation led by the Italian prime minister. The talks began on a friendly note and with mutual respect on the two sides. The SDR delegation was led by SDR President Challe Mohamed Siad Barre, while the Italian delegation was led by Italian Prime Minister Bettino Craxi.

In his opening speech, SDR President Challe Mohamed Siad Barre said that the increasingly fruitful collaboration and cooperation in economic, cultural, and social spheres between Somalia and Italy are clearly indicative of the excellent relations and mutual respect between the two countries and peoples.

SDR President Challe Siad drew attention to the SDR's abundant natural resources, particularly in agriculture, livestock, fisheries,and mineral resources, which, if properly exploited, could become a firm foundation for the country's economic and social development. The president expressed the SDR's sincere gratitude for the Italian Government's tangible assistance on economic development projects in the SDR.

Italian Prime Minister Bettino Craxi in his speech expressed gratitude for the warm welcome accorded him and his delegation. He said that in view of the excellent and deep-rooted relations between the two countries his government will try hard to find ways of fully assisting the development and progress of Somalia.

Following the opening speeches the two delegations began discussing the agenda of the talks. The delegates discussed in detail ways of promoting and strengthening the economic, cultural, and social areas which the two countries are jointly funding, with particular reference to agriculture, livestock, fisheries, tourism, mineral prospecting, information, communciations, health, and other projects.

The two delegations also discussed ways of completing ongoing projects and initiating new ones. A joint committee was appointed to make a detailed study of ways of implementing the aims and aspirations of the two countries as expressed by the heads of the delegations.

Craxi on Aid Commitment

LD222147 Rome Domestic Service in Italian
2030 GMT 22 Sep 85

[Text] On the last day of his visit to the Somali Republic, Bettino Craxi, president of Italy's Council of Ministers, visited a camp for refugees from Ethiopia, which has been at war with Somalia for several years. Craxi was able to note the dramatic situation ofthe refugees, a situation in which cholera has claimed hundreds of victims in the recent past. Craxi reiterated Italy's commitment to sustain Somalia with aid initiatives. As far as the Somali-Ethiopian conflict is concerned, the minister of defense in Mogadishu told Italian journalists that he received reports yesterday indicating that Ethiopia is preparing an attack against the Somali Republic in 4 to 5 days.

Report on Communique

EA231152 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali
0330 GMT 23 Sep 85

[Text] The Government of the Somali Democratic Republic [SDR] and Italy last night issued a joint communique following the Italian prime minister's visit to the SDR 20-23 September following an official invitation from SDR President Challe Mohamed Siad Barre.

The communique said Italian Prime Minister Bettino Craxi and his delegation were warmly welcomed in the SDR during their visit, an indication of the deep-rooted and friendly relations between the SDR and Italy.

While in the country the Italian prime minister visited a number of regions in the SDR, visits which enabled him and his delegation to see the progress that development is making in the country and also to see for themselves how the Somali people live. President Siad and Prime Minister Craxi exchanged views on major current problems prevailing in the world and on matters of particular interest, as well as cooperation between the two countries with emphasis on economic, social, and cultural matters. In view of the current good relations between their countries, the two leaders expressed their willingness to continue cooperation based on close collaboration and their friendship. They both agreed on the importance of closer consultations on current political issues in order to give momentum to the friendly relations between Somalia and Italy.

The two leaders, Challe Mohamed Siad Barre and Mr Bettino Craxi, have both agreed that economic relations will greatly help in cementing the existing cooperation and collaboration between the two peoples and the two countries. They have also agreed on the need and explored possibilities for enhancing new areas of cooperation with a view to particular attention being paid to agriculture, mining, industry, public works, communications, transportation, fisheries, and tourism.

President Siad and Prime Minister Craxi showed their concern at the explosive situations and tensions in many corners of the globe, which they described as the products of military adventurism, and they called for an end to those situations through negotiations, which they said were a vital factor. The leaders stressed the need for and the importance of the principles of noninterference and national sovereignty. They expressed their opposition to occupation by military forces of other nations' territories. They both unreservedly condemned any form of military deployment, and they called for the immediate withdrawal of foreign military forces from the territories that they occupy.

The two leaders placed significant stress on the need for people and their leaders to make notable efforts on ways to avoid provocations, military confrontations and wars, and for contributing to international peace.

After exchanging views on African affairs, Challe Siad and Mr Craxi expressed their full support for the peoples of the African Continent in their efforts to advance economically, which they said would greatly contribute to strengthening their national independence and ridding their countries of external interference.

Following the SDR president's briefing of the Italian prime minister on the situation in the Horn of Africa, the two leaders expressed their concern at the current instability in the Horn of Africa, and called for the parties to the dispute to resolve their differences through negotiations while also considering the rights and interests of the people of the Horn of Africa. The two leaders identified the need for lasting solutions by those concerned in the current dangerous situations in the Middle East, South Africa, the Gulf war, Afghanistan, and Kampuchea.

Mr and Mrs Craxi said they were immensely delighted with the enthusiastic welcome accorded them while in the SDR. Mr Craxi extended an official invitation to SDR President Challe Siad and Challe (Khadija Maialin) to visit Italy, which President Siad accepted. The date of Challe Siad's and the first lady's visit to italy will be arranged through diplomatic channels. The ceremony at which the communique was signed by Challe Siad and Mr Craxi was held in the VIP lounge at the People's Hall in Mogadishu.

Challe Siad bestowed on the Italian prime minister the Somali Star Medal, which is the highest honor. After the signing of the communique, SDR President Challe Mohamed Siad Barre attended an official banquet hosted in his honor by the Italian prime minister at the Mogadishu residence of the Italian ambassador to Somali. During the party Challe Siad and Mr Craxi held separate news conferences with Italian journalists accompanying Mr Craxi's delegation. The two leaders expressed satisfaction with their talks in general, in which they said they shared similar views on the various topics mentioned.

The ceremonies were attended by Challe Lieutenant General Mohamed Ali Samantar and Major General Hussein Kulmie Afrah, first and second vice presidents of the SDR, respectively; Challe Brigadier General Suleiman Ahmed Abdulle, member of the SRSP Political Committee; chairmen; leaders; ministers; party officials; and members of the People's National Assembly; government officials;and the two countries' envoys in Mogadishu and in Rome.

Craxi Departs

EA231436 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali
1115 GMT 23 Sep 85

[Summary] Italian Prime Minister Bettino Craxi, his wife Anna Craxi, and the accompanying delegation departed Mogadishu at 1000 today for home, at the conclusion of their official visit to the Somali Democratic Republic.

Foreign Minister on Visit

EA232101 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali
1700 GMT 23 Sep 85

[Text] Somali Foreign Minister Challe Dr Abdurahman Jama Barre said today that the visit by Italian Prime Minister H.E. Craxi, and his delegation ended in mutual recognition of the need for the two peoples and countries to cooperate and to continue cooperation. Addressing a news conference at the headquarters of the Foreign Ministry in Mogadishu, Challe Abdurahman Jama Barre added that Craxi's visit to Somalia is not only important but also unique and different from other visits by various world leaders to Somalia, first by virtue of the deep-rooted and historic relations between the two countries, and second because it is the first time since independence that an Italian delegation at the prime ministerial level has visited the country. The minister said that since then the two countries' agricultural, educational, technical, and trade links have been strengthened.

The minister said the official talks and meetings between Somali President Challe Mohamed Siad Barre, and Italian Prime Minister H.E. Craxi and those of the various committees from the two sides, have resulted in the signing of agreements on developing Somalia's economy and exploiting areas of mutual benefit. The two sides issued a joint communique on the political views of the two leaders on ways of solving world problems, particularly the one in the Horn of Africa, and ways of developing bilateral cooperation.

Explaining the economic agreements signed by the two leaders, Challe Abdurahman Jama Barre said their purpose is to strengthen the old economic ties. The Somali Government has proposed some projects which need implementing, including livestock, agricultural, and fisheries projects, which the delegation led by H.E. Craxi has agreed to finance.

The fisheries agreement provides for the establishment of an international fisheries company with fishing vessels fitted with refrigeration equipment and fuel ships to be used for [word indistinct] of the fish. The company will also produce fish in sufficient quantities.

On agriculture, the two sides have agreed to establish a 2,000-hectare agrolivestock farm in Afgooye District. This project will also reach factory level and Somalia will be given technical aid for its fertilizer plant. The Italian Government has also agreed to abolish the tax on Somali bananas sold to Italy and will try to get the taxes on bananas sold to EEC countries abolished too.

The minister added that on communications and information, the two sides have agreed to expand communications in Somalia. A television project would be implemented in Hargeysa town which, in the future, will provide channels linking the country.

On industries and tourism, Challe Abdurahman Jama Barre said agreement has been reached on expanding the refinery project to make it economically viable: to expand by 10,000 hectares the sugar project at Jowhar sugar factory and to expand the (Snay Biyadar) factory, as well as the Mogadishu power project. On tourism, they agreed that the Italian Government and some companies will develop areas best suited for tourism. On the Baardheere dam, which is being financed by the Italian Government to the tune of $50 million, the minister said that, besides providing the financial backing, the Italian Government has also promised to pay any extra expenses incurred by the project.

Challe Abdurahman Jama Barre said that it has been agreed that the $200 million the Italian Government has set aside for urgent relief aid to Africa be used to implement projects in the eastern and Senag regions, such as building roads between Garoowe and Boosaaso, Qardho and Boosaaso, (Bergal) and Caluula, Qardho, and Ceerigaabo, Hurdiya, and Caluula, Ceerigaabo and Boosaaso, and Caluula, (Maxale) and Galgalo, the construction of airports in Boosaaso and Qardho, and the construction of Boosaaso port. Ships will gain access to Caluula as a port of call: Water wells will be drilled, hospitals built, and veterinary projects implemented in the two regions. One hundred and fifty trucks will be provided for the work.

Turning to higher education, the Somali foreign minsiter said that the Italian Government has promised to continue aiding the Somali National University in various areas, such as training lecturers and providing equipment and books. It has also promised to construct a teaching hospital for the medical faculty. The Italian Government will also participate in research on common tropical diseases. It would also take part in the development of [word indistinct] in the Science and Somali Folklore Academy.

The minister said these agreements highlight the historical relations between the two peoples and countries. The Italian Government has also promised to encourage Italian businessmen to finance and exploit Somalia's untapped resources to their mutual benefit.

Challe Abdurahman Jama Barre also said that the Italian Government has pledged to continue its technical and food aid to Somalia, as well as continuing to assist refugees in Somalia.

Present during the ceremony were the deputy ministers of planning and information, Challe Dr (Abd al-Rashid Shaykh Ahmad) and Dr (Yusuf Ali Uthman) respectively; the (?principal) secretaries in the Ministries of Foreign Affairs and Planning; and other officials from the Information, Foreign, and Planning Ministries.

TANZANIA

Nyerere Comments on Situation in Uganda

EA211451 Kampala Domestic Service in English
1000 GMT 21 Sep 85

[Text] President Julius Nyerere of Tanzania, in his first statement on Uganda since the overthrow of President Milton Obote in the 27 July coup, has said the situation in the country calls for common efforts by all warring parties to bring peace to the war-torn country. Speaking to the students and academic staff of the University of Dar es Salaam and the Morogoro-based University of Agriculture in Dar es Salaam, Dr Nyerere noted that Uganda has not had a chance to settle down since independence in 1962. Uganda, he added, is now back to square one and he called on them to pray for Uganda.

The president was bidding farewell to the university community as the chancellor of the three universities before he steps down as president of the United Republic of Tanzania in November.

He said although Tanzania is a neighboring country, it has no power over Uganda and said only Ugandans can solve their problems.

Foreign Ministry Condemns RSA Attack on Angola

EA211501 Dar es Salaam Domestic Service in Swahili
1900 GMT 20 Sep 85

[Text] Dar es Salaam -- Tanzania has strongly condemned South Africa's invasion of Angola and has called on the forces of the South African Boers to withdraw from Angola unconditionally.

A statement issued in Dar es Salaam today by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs called on the international community, particularly Western countries, which are friends of South Africa, to stop glorifying apartheid. While calling for the imposition of economic sanctions against the Boer regime in accordance with the United Nations resolutions, the statement stressed Tanzania's support for the Angolan people and hailed them for preparing themselves to combat their enemies.

The statement said the recent attack against Angola by the Boer forces is clear evidence of that regime's campaign against the Republic of Angola and other independent African countries.

The government's statement added that the South African Boer regime, having failed to stifle the struggle of the Namibian fighters for liberation, led by the SWAPO movement, is using Namibia's territory to attack Angola on the pretext of hunting SWAPO liberation fighters.

Nyerere Leaves on Canada, Cuba, Angola Tour

EA232117 Dar es Salaam Domestic Service in Swahili
1700 GMT 23 Sep 85

[Text] Dar Es Salaam -- President Nyerere left Dar Es Salaam today for a 2-week tour of Canada, Cuba, and Angola. Mwalimu was seen off at the airport by various party and government leaders, including Prime Minister Ndugu Salim Ahmed Salim.

Mwalimu will be in Canada from tomorrow until 26 September, from where he will go to New York from 26 to 28 September. While in New York, he will address the UN General Assembly. On his way from New York to Cuba, President Nyerere and his delegation will stop briefly in the Bahamas in the Caribbean. He will be in Cuba until 2 October. He will arrive in Angola 2 days later and is expected back in Dar es Salaam on 6 October.

UGANDA

Paper Says Government Troops Loot Jinja

EA241053 Nairobi THE STANDARD in English 24 Sep 85 p 1

["Army Looters Bring Town to Standstill" — *THE STANDARD* headline]

[Excerpt] Kampala, 24 Sep — Uganda's second largest town, Jinja, was paralysed today after government troops went on a looting spree, residents said.

Residents reached by telephone said hundreds of soldiers, sent to deal with rebels who were in the area yesterday, started looting businesses and homes early this morning.

They said officers later restored order among their men but banks, shops and other businesses remained shut throughout the day, paralysing all activity in the town of 200,000 people.

No casualties were reported.

Troops Retake 'Key' Bridge at Jinja

EA231100 Nairobi THE KENYA TIMES in English 23 Sep 85 p 1

[Front page report entitled: "Ugandan Troops Recapture Jinja"; attributed to *TIMES* reporters and agencies]

[Text] Ugandan Government troops have retaken the key Owens Falls Bridge at Jinja on the Nile River, travellers reaching Kampala, said last night.

Earlier, travellers reported the bridge, over which much of land-locked Uganda's goods must cross to reach the outside world, to be in the hands of the National Resistance Army (NRA), the country's main rebel group.

Jinja, 50 miles east of the capital, is also part of the hydroelectric power complex that supplies nearly all of Uganda's electricity. According to the travellers, NRA apparently abandoned the bridge and surrounding areas without a fight after taking it with sporadic exchanges of gunfire earlier in the day.

The travellers said government troops were moving through the countryside and warning people to stay in their dwellings as they hunted for rebels. Some of the travellers brought reports of looting by the government troops.

Other reports said Uganda's new military leader, General Tito Okello, met Tanzanian President Julius Nyerere in Dar es Salaam yesterday, apparently to discuss the resuming of peace talks. Nyerere's spokesman, Habib Halahala, said the two sides had discussed bilateral relations and efforts being made by the new Kampala leaders to achieve peace and stability.

Okello arrived in Dar es Salaam yesterday afternoon, accompanied by Foreign Minister Olara Otunnu. They left after the discussions which lasted about one-and-a-half hours.

Museveni is also in Dar es Salaam but it was not immediately clear if he had participated in the talks, attended by Tanzanian Foreign Minister Ben Mkaph and Defence Minister Brigadier Muhiddin Kimario.

On Saturday, eyewitnesses said the NRA had cut off Masaka, the third largest town in Uganda, 80 miles west of Kampala. They said government troops had rushed to Nkozi Mission Hospital, 50 miles west of the capital, on the Kampala-Masaka road, to check a possible rebel advance towards Kampala.

A group of journalists who drove towards Masaka to check the reports were turned back at Katonga, 45 miles from Kampala by the guerrillas.

The reporters said they had found about 100 NRA fighters, some as young as 14 years, carrying Soviet-made AK 47 rifles and other automatic weapons, stationed on both sides of the road.

They said a commander called Kateregа Musoke had told them his men had broken a tenuous cease-fire declared after the July 27 military coup and gone on the offensive to teach Uganda's new military administration a lesson.

The postponed Uganda peace talks are still expected to resume in Nairobi tomorrow, Kenya's foreign minister, Mr Elijah Mwangale, told *THE KENYA TIMES* yesterday.

This will be the third time the Military Council and the National Resistance Movement (NRM), the largest guerrilla organisation in Uganda, will meet under the chairmanship of President Daniel Arap Moi.

Mwangale told *THE KENYA TIMES*, we are hoping the talks will resume on Tuesday. They have indicated that they want the talks to be on Tuesday, said Mwangale, adding that the government was waiting for the parties involved and their delegations.

Meanwhile, Kenyan long distance truck drivers ferrying goods to Rwanda and Burundi have called on the government to temporarily halt transport operations through Uganda until the impending peace talks scheduled are finalised. They said alternatively full security measures should be implemented to assure them of safe passage through Uganda, in the face of mounting confrontations between the military forces and NRA.

The drivers expressed these views to *THE KENYA TIMES* at the weekend.

The drivers felt the Governments of Rwanda, Burundi, and Zaire to which the fuel and dry cargo were destined, should also participate in the provision of adequate security for them while passing through Uganda. There is a lot of fighting among the warring factions in Uganda and that has in turn led to closures of main roads.

Kenyan Truckers Stranded Near NRA-Held Masaka

EA241106 Nairobi The KENYA TIMES in English 24 Sep 85 p 1

[By Henry Gombya in Kampala]

[Excerpts] More than 100 Kenyan truck drivers are among hundreds of lorry drivers now stranded at Lukaya, a town 30 kilometers from Masaka which was captured by NRA [National Resistance Army] guerrillas on Sunday evening [22 September]. The Kenyans told me they have used all the money they had and cannot now buy anything to eat or find money to hire rooms at hotels. They appealed to the Kenyan Government to try and held them out of this situation.

There were over 40 trucks carrying different goods to Rwanda, Zaire and Burundi as well as oil tankers. Drivers to whom I talked said they have been stranded between Masaka and Mbarara for a week now.

The NRA is still now allowing anybody to drive either to Masaka or to Kampala but it allowed about 20 trucks carrying food to proceed to Kampala yesterday morning. Asked whether they intend to capture Kampala, the guerrillas said that is not their intention. All we are trying to do, they said, is teach the Army that never again the people of Uganda be dictated to by the gun.

The NRA advised me not to proceed to Masaka, saying the UNLA [Uganda National Liberation Army] had placed a roadblock two miles from Masaka town and [was] harassing anybody trying to enter the town. Asked what the government intends to do about the NRA onslaught in southern Uganda, Interior Minister Paul Semogorere told me yesterday morning that this was a military problem and needed a military solution.

Okello Lutwa Returns From Nairobi Meeting

EA241052 Kampala Domestic Service in English
1008 GMT 24 Sep 85

[Text] The chairman of the Military Council and head of state, General Tito Okello Lutwa, has returned home from Nairobi where he held talks with Presidents Julius Nyerere of Tanzania and Daniel Arap Moi of Kenya. Seeing him off at Jomo Kenyatta International Airport were Kenyan Government ministers and senior government officials. He was received at Entebbe International Airport by the ministers of internal affairs, Mr Ssemogerere; of local administration, Mr Laidi Ocaya; of public service and cabinet affairs, Mr Kitariko; the inspector general of police, Mr Okoth Ogola; and other senior government and military officials.

A statement issued in Nairobi yesterday after the meeting of the three East African leaders says they discussed issues of common interest, especially the peace process in Uganda. The statement said the presidents of Kenya and Tanzania reaffirmed their commitment to assist the Uganda Government to achieve lasting peace in the country.

Meanwhile it has been announced that the Uganda Government delegation to the Nairobi peace talks with the National Resistance Army will leave for the Kenyan capital today to resume the talks.

Otunnu Returns Home After 7-Nation African Tour

EA222043 Kampala Domestic Service in English
1700 GMT 22 Sep 85

[Excerpt] The minister of foreign affairs, Mr Olara Otunnu, has returned home after a tour which took him to seven African countries to brief their leaders on the developments in Uganda since the change of government last July. The countries visited by the minister include Burundi, Rwanda, Zaire, the Sudan, Egypt, Ethiopia, and Libya. In Tripoli, Mr Olara Otunnu yesterday delivered a letter from the chairman of the Military Council and head of state, General Tito Okello Lutwa, to the Libyan head of state, Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi.

NRA Spokesman Comments on Kenya Talks

MB201815 London BBC World Service in English
1515 GMT 20 Sep 85

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] The Kenyan Government has announced today that talks are to resume next week between Uganda's Military Council and Yoweri Museveni's National Resistance Army [NRA]. The last two meetings in Nairobi chaired by President Moi came to nothing and since then, NRA guerrillas have stepped up their activities in Uganda. It has been reported that they control much of the west of the country and msot of the main roads out of Kampala, though they apparently came up worst when they attacekd the government garrison at Mbarara in the southwest. Robin White asked Dr (Samson Kiseka), the NRA's spokesman in Nairobi if talks were to start again.

[Begin recording] [(Kiseka)] Well, that is what they have announced but we haven't been appraoched on that matter.

[White] So, they have made an announcement without asking you?

[(Kiseka)] Well, I have just told you. Definitely, the Kenya Government knows that we want peace talks.

[White] So, although you haven't been informed, you will attend these talks?

[(Kiseka)] Well, we will be bound to attend. I mean, there is no question.

[White] Is it odd to make an announcement without consulting you?

[(Kiseka)] Well, I can't comment on that.

[White] But, how do you see the prospects for peace at the moment?

[(Kiseka)] Well, you see, this is a complicated matter because, meanwhile, while we were waiting to resume the peace talks, then the Kampala junta went ahead rearming the old Idi Amin's soldiers. They went as far as even to appoint two of them to be on the Military Council. So, we didn't know. We are very doubtful whether they are sincere or they want peace talks or just they want the international community to say that they are saying [as heard] peace talks when they don't really mean it.

[White] Some people are also questioning your sicnerity because, I think, it is you that broke the cease-fire, isn't it?

[(Kiseka)] Well, we have evidence where Tito Okello secretly ordered his troops to move silently down to Mbarara so that our army could be wiped out by the end of October. We have that evidence.

[White] But, what are you up to at the moment, because there are these reports coming in of you cutting up roads to the south, north, east, west; trying to cut off Kampala altogether.

[(Kiseka)] Well, I can't comment on that. But you know what happened. I have just told you that Tito Okello sent a secret message to his troops to surround the NRA, what could the NRA do?

[White] Did you intercept this message?

[(Kiseka)] Yes, of course. I mean, how could we get it?

[White] And that is why you then went on the offensive?

[(Kiseka)] Exactly. [End recording]

GHANA

Foreign Secretary Leaves for UN General Assembly

AB240944 Accra Domestic Service in English
0700 GMT 24 Sep 85

[Text] The secretary for foreign affairs, Dr Obed Asamoah, has flown to New York to attend the 40th session of the UN General Assembly, which begins next month. Speaking to newsmen at the Kotoka International Airport, Dr Asamoah said the session will concern itself with a number of political issues. These include the events in southern Africa, Afghanistan, Kampuchea, and Central America. In addition, issues of the world economic system, which adversely affect developing countries, will be discussed. He observed that the African countries have been hit hard by the imbalance in the world economic order. Dr Asamoah therefore suggested that it will be in the interest of developing countries to unite to find a common solution to the imbalanced system. He disclosed that he will also attend a conference of Afro-Arab Commission for Cooperation which will be held in Syria toward the end of next month. He said the last OAU summit emphasized the importance of the commission. Dr Asamoah hoped that the meeting will lead to fuller cooperation between African and Arab countries. Ghana is a cochairman of the commission. Dr Asamoah was seen off at the airport by a member of the PNDC [Provisional National Defense Council], Captain Kojo Tsikata.

ANGOLA

Spokesman Says SADF Troops Still in Country

MB241020 Umtata Capital Radio in English
1000 GMT 24 Sep 85

[Text] Angola claims South Africa still has defense force troops in southeastern Angola. A spokesman for the Angolan Embassy in Harare says South African troops are still at UNITA's main base of Jamba, which came under strong Angolan attack last week. The spokesman has contradicted South African statements that all its troops had left Angola. The spokesman says the South Africans helped to stop the Angolan Army defeat of UNITA, but he says the Angolan Government is to continue with its offensive against the rebels.

The SADF spokesman in Pretoria says the SADF has nothing to add to statements already made last week in which the South Africans said they had been pursuing SWAPO rebels but had left Angolan territory.

Malan Statements on UNITA Support Criticized

MB221348 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese
1200 GMT 22 Sep 85

[ANGOP commentary: "Pretoria's True Face"]

[Text] Magnus Malan, the defense minister of racist South Africa, has openly said that his regime supports the UNITA puppet group, according to the Spanish News Agency, EFE. The racist defense minister underscored the fact that the assistance is for humanitarian and moral reasons. Magnus Malan is firmly convinced that his statement made a great impact on the international community, as if that statement was news. If on theone hand, the statements made by the racist rulers clearly and objectively confirmed the substantial support that South Africa renders to the bandits in all fields, on the other hand, they also(?contradicted) all the arguments which up to now they had presented to international public opinion. These statements directly implicate South Africa in the economic, social, and political destabilization of the People's Republic of Angola.

On previous occasions, the racist regime shouted to the four corners that it had nothing to do with the puppets despite the irrefutable proof presented by the Angolan authorities. Now, Pretoria has once again demonstrated its monstrous hatred for the Angolan people and their revolution.

It is not new to anybody, not even the West which renders all kinds of support to South Africa, that the defenders of apartheid are all intent on blocking the unstoppable march of our revolution and thereby creating conditions to impose a puppet government which will be docile regarding its interests. This is demonstrated by the direct intervention of the South African Army in an attempt to save their puppets at a time when FAPLA is carrying out clean-up operations on the Cazombo front. The Pretoria soldiers mobilized sophisticated military resources to block the FAPLA advance toward the so-called Jamba base. As if by right, the racist troops penetrated deep inside the Angolan territory and unloaded all their murderous wrath against FAPLA positions.

Accordingly, it is pathetic that a leader of a country such as South Africa should now profess humanitarian principles when it is a bloody-thirsty regime which invades other states and renders assistance to terrorists.

What humanitarian reasons are those when as a result of the support rendered to the puppets, women, children, and old people are killed? How can they speak of philanthropy when human rights are not respected in South Africa? The Pretoria authorities are therefore defending a very strange humanism.

As far as the People's Republic of Angola is concerned, Mr Malan should know that his words were not a surprise to us. These fighting people are fully aware that UNITA is nothing but a group of South African puppets. What is more, Mr Malan should also know that no matter what kind of support he extends to the puppets, FAPLA is determined to annihilate them once and for all.

ANGOP Claims U.S. Supports RSA Operation

MB231358 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese
1200 GMT 23 Sep 85

[ANGOP commentary: "The Recipe of the Agonizing Dictatorships"]

[Text] South Africa's agonizing racist regime continues to commit acts of violence and help criminals. Hundreds of detainees and thousands of South African blacks have been massacred in the last few months. South Africa has now carried out an act of aggression against sovereign Angola. Its land forces, supported by the Air Force, are carrying out this operation. According to the Botha government's version, the objective of this military action is a preemptive strike against SWAPO bases. This is a ridiculous explanation, similar to the one invented by racist South Africa after a group of South African terrorists was captured in Cabinda while trying to sabotage an Angolan petroleum depot. Pretoria declared then that the group had been sent to gather information on SWAPO and ANC activities.

It appears that the real objective of the new bloody crime committed by racist South Africa is to try to convince the world, and the anti-apartheid demonstrators within the country, of the solidity of the South African regime. This recipe is not new. It has often been used by dictatorships which are condemned by history, as well as by liberation struggles, whose victory is inevitable. In contemporary history, the Israeli Zionist leadership has repeatedly resorted to repressive military operations to draw attention away from the acute internal and external problems experienced by the country. Tel Aviv uses confrontation, militarist hysteria, and aggressive chauvinism caused by renewed attacks on neighboring countries, to crush Arab demonstrations within Israel against Zionist discriminatory laws, the people's indignation over the country's economic strife, and protests by the people residing in occupied Arab land against the occupying regime.

The Israeli leaders have always found understanding and support in Washington, which has supplied the Israeli Army with all that is necessary for new provocations; and like Israel in the Middle East, the apartheid regime has the support of the United States in southern Africa.

U.S. leading circles have in fact sanctioned the current intervention by racist South Africa in Angola. It is no accident that Pretoria's aggression followed the declarations made by U.S. leaders that, despite the state of emergency in South Africa, the United States would continue the policy of constructive engagement with racist South Africa, and that the United States and South Africa would engage in energetic and constructive cooperation. Racist South Africa's new aggression against Angola is one of the consequences of this new policy.

UNITA's Savimbi Asks U.S. Assistance

MB240843 Umtata Capital Radio in English
0800 GMT 24 Sep 85

[Text] UNITA leader Jonas Savimbi has made another plea for U.S. assistance in its guerrilla war against the Angolan Government. He says he has proof that Russians are directly involved in the civil war in Angola and is willing to supply the evidence to Washington if it wants it.

[Begin Savimbi recording] Now that the Clark amendment is repealed, we are expecting a sign from the Americans. The Americans, they will allow the Soviet Union to kill people, to be involved in a small country like Angola, and with America without lifting a finger, even not a declaration. And if they want us to give them hard facts, let them come to us so that we can give that to them. But why I think it is ... [changes thought] I am directing my own call on the Americans. Now that the Clark amendment is repealed and the Russians have responded with direct involvement, what will be the attitude of the United States? [End recording]

MOZAMBIQUE

'Armed Bandits' Kill Four on Maputo Outskirts

MB240459 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese
0400 GMT 24 Sep 85

[Text] In the early hours of yesterday, several groups of armed bandits attacked various installations in Matola, Machava, and Liberdade ward on the outskirts of Maputo. They murdered four people, including a child, and wounded various others. A total of five people, one in serious condition, have been taken to the Maputo Central Hospital.

One of the armed bandit groups attacked several houses, murdering one person and stealing goods belonging to the residents. While withdrawing, the bandits set two vehicles on fire and abducted a number of people. At Liberdade ward, the armed bandits murdered three people and unsuccessfully tried to attack a consumer cooperative store. Here, they set the cooperative's warehouse, which stored empty bags and containers, on fire.

In Machava the armed bandits tried to simultaneously attack three industrial units, but were repelled by the people's militia. Afterward, they attacked and plundered two private stores. The bandits then fled toward South Africa, abandoning the hostages whom they had taken in Moamba region.

Police Communique on Radio Explosion

MB241128 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese
1055 GMT 24 Sep 85

[Communique issued by the Maputo Command of the Mozambique People's Police in Maputo on 24 September]

[Text] Some 3 weeks ago, a Xirico radio, without batteries, was left on a stand at the Maputo central market belonging to Mr Fernando Bambo. Without knowing who had placed the radio on the stand, Mr Bambo took it to his house about a week ago.

On 23 September, after having acquired a few batteries, Mr Bambo put them in the radio at the end of the day. When he switched the radio on, there was an explosion which led to serious injuries and instantly killed two small children, aged 4 and 6, who were with Mr Bambo at the time. [sentence as heard] The explosion lifted the roof off the house and cracked the walls, and destroyed the dishes.

Undoubtedly, it is an enemy action and an act of terrorism aimed at hitting defenseless people and causing panic. The Mozambique People's Police [PPM] reminds everyone that similar actions occurred in the past, namely the use of pens, toys, parcels, and other booby-trapped objects. PPM alerts the Maputo grassroots organs as well the residents in general to increase vigilance and immediately report strange objects abandoned in buildings, public places, and areas of large concentrations of people, namely schools, shopping areas, markets, movies theaters, sports facilities, and amusement areas in general. Parents are requested to inform children in this regard. Only with this vigilance will it be possible to neutralize enemy action.

SOUTH AFRICA

Senior Foreign Affairs Officials Leave for U.S.

MB230456 Johannesburg SAPA in English
2044 GMT 22 Sep 85

[Text] Pretoria, Sep 22, SAPA — A group of senior officials from the Department of Foreign Affairs left for the U.S. earlier today for discussions with the American Government on SWA/Namibia, a Foreign Affairs spokesman confirmed.

Commenting on reports from the U.S. that the delegation was expected in the U.S. later this week, the spokesman said: "A small group of senior officials arranged a time ago for discussions on matters concerning South-West Africa."

He said the talks would apparently concern "continuing discussions on independence (for SWA/Namibia)."

The spokesman said the delegation left this morning, but said he could not comment on who was in the South African team, or who they would meet in the U.S.

Defense Minister Cited on UNITA Support

MB240655 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 24 Sep 85

[Station Commentary: "South Africa and UNITA"]

[Text] This country's strategic interests are profoundly affected by the Angolan civil war where an unprecedented offensive has been launched by Cuban forces and Soviet-supported and armed government troops against Dr Jonas Savimbi's UNITA movement. Russian officers are actively involved in the fighting, and the most modern Soviet weaponry, aircraft, tanks, artillery, and armored vehicles have been shipped in to ensure success.

It was against that background that Defense Minister Magnus Malan spoke at the weekend about South Africa's support for UNITA. At present this amounts to material, humanitarian, and moral support, but the situation is fluid and subject to reevaluation. Aid to UNITA would continue until the Cubans were out of Angola, General Malan said. He added, the point is that interference by Cubans and other Communist forces must stop. There must be an end to Marxist infiltration and expansionism.

The MPLA seized power by force in Angola when after the Portuguese withdrawal in 1975, it broke an agreement for a government of national unity with FNLA and UNITA. Since then it has required the permanent presence of some 25,000 soldiers to handle the civil war that resulted. The latest offensive directed by the Soviet Union is evidently an all-or-nothing push to destroy UNITA. Russians have taken command of artillery, armored, and Air Force units, and at least three Russian soldiers have died so far in the fighting. The hard-pressed UNITA leadership has appealed to the West, and particularly the U.S., to intervene in their own interests.

The U.S., which has still not extended official recognition to the MPLA government, took a clear line in the early years of the Reagan administration. At the start of his first term, President reagan said the withdrawal of Cuban troops from Angola was a precondition for SWA's [South-West Africa] independence. His then secretary of state, General Alexander Haig, said in 1982 the presence of Cuban forces in Angola not only hinders the independence process in SWA, but is a serious threat to peace and stability in the whole region. That remains true and of special relevance to South Africa, which is not separated by an ocean from the situation. It follows that American strategic interests in the region — its mineral resources and the Cape sea route — are also under threat. So far Washington's reaction to the latest events has been restricted to statements of concern about the conflict in Angola and criticism of South Africa's follow-up operation against SWAPO last week. These early signals are worrying. If they are preparations for America to repeat its about-turn of 1976 at the time of the South African march from Luanda by walking away from its declared commitment to resist Soviet expansionism, South Africa cannot do the same. It has to face up to the implications for SWA and later South Africa itself if UNITA should be destroyed in southern Angola. Without a doubt, SWA would be the next target of the Soviet-controlled forces that run Angola, and neither South Africa nor the Free World can stand idly by while that happens.

Commentary Questions U.S. Intention on Angola

MB240725 Johannesburg International Service in English 0630 GMT 24 Sep 85

[Station Commentary: "The Angolan Crisis"]

[Text] The developments of the past few days clearly show that the Angolan situation is critical and as such poses a severe threat not only to the subcontinent as a whole, but to the entire world. The claim by UNITA leader Dr Jonas Savimbi that his fighters are now up against a massive conventional military onslaught by Angolan FAPLA and Cuban forces led by Soviet field commanders, is obviously well-founded. All the evidence points to it. Over the past 12 months, there have been numerous reports of large numbers of Soviet personnel arriving in Luanda together with deliveries of the most sophisticated Soviet weaponry. These had included large numbers of tanks, armored vehicles, MIG-23 fighter aircrafts, and MC-25 helicopter gunships.

Dr Savimbi said at the weekend that Soviet soldiers and airmen were now directly involved in the fighting against his forces in an all-out effort to crush him. This had introduced a new element into Angola's civil war. It showed, he said, that Angola and South Africa are not such low Soviet priorities as was thought.

South Africa's involvement in the Angolan situation stems from the fact that the estimated 25,000 Cuban troops propping up the MPLA government also materially support SWAPO terrorists in their aim to wrest power in SWA.

Last Friday the South African minister of defense, General Magnus Malan, openly spoke of South African support for Dr Savimbi. He said this support would continue until all foreign forces left Angola.

It is important to remember that all South African forces were withdrawn from Angola earlier this year in order to facilitate a Cuban withdrawal. However, there has been no evidence of a reciprocal Cuban withdrawal.

The other important development at the weekend was the dispatch to Washington of two senior officials of the South African Foreign Affairs Ministry for urgent discussions with the American Government. One of the aims of the Reagan administration in southern Africa is to get the Cubans out of Angola. Another is to bring UNITA into a government of national unity in Luanda. The Reagan administration has also made it clear from the outset that it will not stand by idly and watch covert Soviet expansionism, particularly in its ultra-strategic regions in the world which southern Africa undoubtedly is. The fact is that it is now watching that expansionism. The question is, what is it going to do about it?

Botswana Foreign Minister To Visit 25 Sep

LD240456 Johannesburg International Service in English 0400 GMT 24 Sep 85

[Text] The minister of foreign affairs of Botswana, Dr. Gaositwe Chiepe, will be heading an official delegation to Pretoria tomorrow to meet the South African minister of foreign affairs, Mr Pik Botha. The meeting is being held at the request of Botswana and it will be the first between the two ministers since the raid on Gaborone by a detachment of the South African Defense Force in June.

Radio Botswana reports that Dr Chiepe is to demand compensation from South Africa for the raid. The United Nations Security Council recently approved compensation for Botswana after a United Nations commission had visited Botswana.

Convention Alliance Announced in Johannesburg

MB220505 Johannesburg SAPA in English 2045 GMT 21 Sep 85

[Text] Johannesburg, Sept 21, SAPA — A Convention Alliance drawing together organisations and individuals covering the "middleground" of South African opinions was launched in Johannesburg today with the express aim of bringing about national convention.

A broad spectrum of leaders representing some 100 organisations — ranging from National Party members in their private capacities to Black Sash members — met and appointed a steering committee to look into the statregy the alliance should embark on, it was announced at a press conference at the end of the meeting.

The United Democratic Front, one of the country's leading anit-apartheid organisations, was not represented at the meeting.

However, the two political leaders who initiated the alliance, Dr Frederick van Zyl Slabbert, leader of the Progressive Federal Party, and chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi, the chief minister of KwaZulu, said they did not consider the UDF's initial non-involvement an obstacle.

They would not name the groups which would participate in the alliance, as many representatives still had to obtain official sanction from their organisations after today's meeting.

Dr Slabbert said the alliance was not a political organisation and did not exclude any individual or organisation.

It attempted to bring together people who supported the idea of a common constitution, one citizenship and one country.

"South Africa is caught up in a process of repression and revolt ... the idea of negotiation is lost to the middleground (people who are) polarised as a result of repression.

"An alliance is such an obvious idea. The success of it depends on the ability of the organisations who form part [of the alliance] and their ability to persuade others to believe in the same ends," Dr Slabbert said.

Asked whether the fact that the African National Congress did not support a national convention would cause problems for the alliance, he said:

"I can understand why they don't support it. But there is no reason why we in the country cannot bring about the right circumstances (for a convention to take place)."

Asked why there were no National Party representatives at the alliance, Dr Slabbert said he had had informal discussions with two people "high in the Afrikaner establishment" who had expressed "cautious" support for the alliance but could not publicly align themselves to it.

"If we first had to persuade Afrikaners or the left (to join the alliance) then we'll never get anything off the ground."

He said the alliance hoped to broaden its base.

Chief Buthelezi said the alliance did not assume that a convention could be held, nor was it a national convention.

A national convention would have to include the state president, Mr P.W. Botha and the ANC, although both rejected negotiation.

He said when he was a member of the ANC, before it was banned in South Africa, it supported the idea of a national convention adding:

"The alliance demonstrates support for a national convention and the need for negotiation."

South Africa had two options, violence or negotiation, and the alliance gave those committed to peaceful change an alternative, he said.

The newly-elected chairman of the 10 member steering committee, Mr Jules Browde, the national chairman of Lawyers for Human Rights, said the committee planned to meet in 10 days time and would report back regarding proposals for the alliance's strategy immediately afterwards.

Mr Raymond Ackerman, managing director of a major supermarket chain and one of the elected members to the committee, said the real aim of the alliance was to give hope to thousands of people.

"At least people will see from the outside that we are doing something in this time of cirsis."

The other members on the steering committee were given as Professor David Bosch, Dr Andy Borraine, Mr Colin Eglin, Rev M.S. Magoba, Dr Oscar Dlomo, Mr Tony Ardington, Mrs Joyce Harris, Mr Colin Eglin and Prof Denys Schreiner.

The day-long meeting was attended by nearly 200 people who were from churches (Anglican, Methodist and Catholic), the

Black Sash, the Institute of Race Relations, the PFP, Inkatha, commerce and Industry, the press, academic institutions, Lawyers for Human Rights and sportsclubs.

Notable indivuduals present were Professor Richard van der Ross, rector of the University of the Western Cape, Dr Zac de Beer, of the Anglo-American Corporation, Archbishop Denis Hurley, the Roman Catholic archbishop from Durban, and former Springbok rugby captain (now a businessman), Mr Morne du Plessis.

Buthelezi Comments

MB201747 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1719 GMT 20 Sep 85

[Excerpt] Johannesburg, Sept 20, SAPA — A national convention would fail if people like ANC leader Nelson Mandela, the state president, Mr P.W. Botha, and conservative party leader Dr Andries Treurnicht were excluded, Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi said today (Saturday).

The KwaZulu chief minister and Inkatha president was addressing the inaugural meeting of the national convention alliance in Johannesburg. He tabled what he called a statement of belief, listing 17 points of common interest between Inkatha and the PFP. He also tabled a declaration of intent which, he said, specified how Inkatha felt it could compromise in the search for solutions to the country's problems.

Chief Buthelezi said some people thought in terms of a national convention of opposing parties that would decide on the fate of the majority of whites who would be excluded from the convention. But that was not how he saw a national convention.

"We will fail if people like Mr Nelson Mandela were to be excluded from it and it would fail just as dismally if people like Mr P.W. Botha and Dr Andries Treurnicht were excluded."

He said his ideal was shared by the vast majority of black South Africans, namely a system of government based on one-man, one-vote in a unitary state, with an independent judiciary ensuring the protection of individual rights.

He had to face the fact, however, that white South Africans were incapable of abandoning their fears of the future and joining their fellow South Africans in making such a system work.

"The only way in which a one-man, one-vote system could be introduced here in the short term is by the revolutionary overthrow of the governemnt and the introduction of a one-party system with totalitarian powers." However, a one-man, one-vote system could only work "if we have a single electorate in which there is freedom to choose between leaders and policies."

If whites could not take part in a process ensuring a government chosen in free and open democratic politics, a one-man, one-vote system would fail. "If whites were to effect a scorched-earth policy in response to a one-man, one-vote system it will have to be rammed down their throats by the butt of a gun after they have been vanquished by the gun."

If this happened, "the democratic process on which such a system would have to rely would have been made impossible." The stark choice, therefore, was between resolving the country's problems through a massive employment of force, which would solicit massive counter-force, and resolving it in terms of compromise politics.

Chief Buthelezi said he had long advocated the need for compromises to save lives and to prevent "the racial inferno" towards which apartheid was leading. "That I will stand with (PFP leader) Dr van zyl Slabbert on any political platform now that he is a participant in the new constitution is an expression of my willingness to enter the politics of negotiation and my willingness to make compromises."

In writing about the prospect of a national convention, Dr Slabbert had correctly started with the minimal points of agreement. These invovled a simple commitment to one constitution, based on one citizenship in one country. If that was all the agreement that could be hoped for, forming the alliance would achieve little more than the voicing of a moral statement.

For the alliance to get off the ground politically and if it were going to be more than just something the National Party could joke about, the basis of agreement in its ranks needed to be broadened.

Chief Buthelezi said: "I table this document not to be prescriptive but to give evidence of the extent to which other organisations could work with Inkatha.

"Our statement of belief is, we think, a South African statement, but beliefs need to be translated into action. They need to be expressed in tactis and strategies and, again, not to be prescriptive but to table thinking which can lay the groundwork for greater unity within the alliance."

Chief Buthelezi said he (?believed a) majority of the country's leaders could subscribe to the draft declaration of intent.

It was not an Inkatha document but one in which Inkatha specified how it felt it could compromise in the search for solutions to the country's problems. He said, "I see this alliance as possibly heralding a movement of constituencies towards each other. I see it as a forum in which we can demonstrate to supporters of the National Party just how possible it is to work for deepening agreement through negotiation."

'Declaration of Intent'

MB201830 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1751 GMT 20 Sep 85

[Text] Johannesburg, Sept 20, SAPA — Here is a full transcript of Inkatha's declaration of intent tabled by Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi at the national convention alliance meeting in Johannesburg today (Saturday).

Declaration of intent

We the undersigned hereby declare our commitment to serve God in obedience to His divine will for our country and, together:

Recognise that:

The history of mankind shows the need for adaptive change among all peoples and all nations.

Nations grow in wisdom.

Both mistakes and lessons not yet learned led to errors of judgment in the mainstream politics on both the black and whtie sections of society.

The South African people are a family of mankind, seeking to live in harmony in the African community of nations and seeking to do so by expressing civilised ideals in teh practical, social, economic and political affairs of our country.

The South African Constitution, as it is now written, is by force of history and reality a first step in constitutional reform which urgently needs the second step to be taken of enriching the Constitution to make it as acceptable to the broad mass of African opinion as it has been made acceptable to the broad mass of white opinion.

The Westminster model of government was not ordained by God to be the only form of good government.

We therefore accept:

The need to make the preamble to the South African Constitution of equal value to all the groups and peoples of the country by enriching the clause: "To respect, to further and to protect the self-determination of population groups and people" to include the notion that this can best be done by sharing power in such a way that no one group can dictate to any oather group how to express its own self-determination.

The need to preserve the constitutionality of the adaptive democratic process on which we will jointly rely in being subservient to the divine will for our country. We will therefore together seek:

To negotiate as leaders to amend the South African Constitution to make it acceptable to all groups.

To find an alternative political system to that which the world at large understands by the word, "aparheid," and also to seek an alternative political system in which universal adult suffrage is expressed in constitutional terms acceptable to all the peoples of South Africa.

To use the opportunities presented in practical politics at first, second and third-tier levels of governemnt to fashion national unity by deepening the democratic process, and to use the democratic process in explorations of what needs to be done to get the people to legitimise the instruments of government.

We therefore pledge ourselves:

To express national pride and patriotism by insisting that South Africans will decide South Africa's future in the acceptance of each other as individuals and groups and the acceptance of each other's cultural rights to be who they are.

To start where we find ourselves in history and to move from there to build on all that is positive and valuable and to change that which is negative and undesirable.

Each to work in our own constituencies to develop a South Africn pride in managing our own South African affairs in harmony with internationally accepted standards of civilised decency without being dicated to from without.

Having thus declared, we stand together to defend our right even with our lives to take the steps and the time needed to establish consensus between groups and to win support for our joint efforts in the South African family of nations. And furthermore to stand together to protect South Africa from external onslaughts and to stand together to resist any use of violence which threatens the politics of negotiation aimed at national reconciliation.

Pik Botha Notes Changes Needed to Counter 'Lies'

MB201817 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1813 GMT 20 Sep 85

[Text] Pretoria, Sept 20, SAPA — South Africa could best combat the "slug of distortion and lies" against the republic abroad by continuing to make the changes it believed were right and necessary within South Africa itself, the foreign minister, Mr Pik Botha, said today.

The government was doing everything it possibly could to counter the negative propaganda and distorted image of South Africa overseas, but nobody and nothing could really succeed against the "vindictive spirit" abroad, he told the Transvaal National Party Congress in Pretoria.

The foreign minister was responding to a resolution calling on the government to launch "as a matter of urgency and on a large scale, a foreign action whereby the RSA's case be presented and its image promoted."

Mr Botha said he was well aware of the "stream of negative propaganda" agaisnt the republic in the past few months, and he and other government ministers were doing all they could to counter it by appearing on television and giving radio interviews in an attempt to set the balance right.

The American religious leader, the Rev Jerry Falwell, had visited South Africa recently and had returned and told his countrymen what he had seen and experienced, but he had been reviled as a racist and a mouthpiece by the U.S. media.

The U.S. House of Representatives appeared not to want to hear the views of South African blacks on issues like disnvestment and, despite the historic and funamental reforms being broguht about by the South African Government, the European Economic

Community had imposed limited economic sanctions against the republic, Mr Botha said.

"Western countries are doing the work of Moscow." The struggle was within South Africa itself, he added.

"We must go ahead with the right things we are doing and the truth will eventually break through.

"We must never think we are defeated. We must not be despondent."

Heunis Says Reform Open to Everyone

MB211118 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1107 GMT 21 Sep 85

[Text] Pretoria, Sept 21, SAPA — The National Party had opened the way for everybody who wanted to participate in the peaceful process of reform, the minister of constitutional development and planning, Mr Chris Heunis, said today.

The perception created among blacks by opponents of the reform process that they were excluded from South Africa's constitutional future had to be neutralised, he told delegates to the National Party's Transvaal Congress in Pretoria.

It was not true that the government was only negotiating with those who generally agreed with it — negotiations were in fact taking place with people who disagreed with the government.

Mr Heunis reiterated that the government was willing to negotiate with anybody, but that the only condition was a renunciation of violence.

"We do not negotiate with violent people, with saboteurs," he said.

The agenda for negotiation was open, and the government was not prescribing to anybody how it should be done.

The minister appealed to all "well-disposed" people not to bedevil the process of reform because there was disagreement over the methodology.

The success of negotiations for reform as opposed to violent revolution should be put to the test, and all the recent announcements by the government, concerning among others, a common citizenship for all were the result of negotiation.

The reformist wished to preserve that which was good and change that which had become redundant, but the revolutionaist wanted to destroy. The process of reform had, however, to be seen to be more successful than revolution and every citizen of South Africa was a vehicle for this.

Du Plessis Announces Economic Relief Measures

MB201820 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English
1700 GMT 20 Sep 85

[Text] The minister of finance, Mr Barend du Plessis, has announced wide-ranging measures to bring economic relief to the average South African. Speaking in Pretoria, Mr du Plessis announced that these measures include a 1 1/2 percent drop in basic interest rates across the board, which should lead to all popular rates coming down in the next few weeks. They include steps to encourage a decline in the home mortgage rate, and new expenditure of 500 million rands on employment and welfare schemes to be covered partly by a 10 percent surcharge on imports not covered by debt.

The 1 percent ad valorem duty on motor cars has been abolished. Deposits on motor cars and higher purchase will be reduced to 10 percent and 20 percent, respectively.

The reserve bank announced earlier this afternoon that it would reduce its bank rate from 16 to 15 percent on Monday.

P.W. Botha on Economic Cooperation

MB231640 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English
1600 GMT 23 Sep 85

[Text] The state president, Mr P.W. Botha, says the internal and external pressure being exerted on the South African economy requires a serious combined effort by the private and public sectors to overcome the problems. Mr Botha this afternoon opened the first sitting of the newly established economic advisory council. The council, which is under the chairmanship of Dr (Kerneels Niemand), begins its activities in Pretoria tomorrow.

Mr Botha said the demands of time put great pressure on the renewal of economic and political structures. He emphasized the interaction which had to be created between the state and private sector, and added that the advisory council had to recognize the unique position South Africa occupied in southern Africa.

Mr Botha said South Africa's position on the subcontinent was also often influenced by the conflicting interests of the superpowers. Referring to the current pressure on the country's economy, Mr Botha said South Africa should not give way to pessimism. He said many of the problems could be overcome with close cooperation between the public and private sectors.

He said despite the negative developments, which included the withdrawal of investments and the refusal of international banks to renew thier short-term loans to South Africa, there was now more opportunity for the development of economic growth and job creation than a few months ago.

Mr Botha said South Africans should guard against basing their long-term perspective on the present strong undertone of pessimism in the South African economy.

Team of Doctors To Examine Nelson Mandela

MB230720 Johannesburg SAPA in English
0718 GMT 23 Sep 85

[Text] Johannesburg, Sep 23, SAPA — Nelson Mandela is to be examined by a team of doctors led by a Baragwanath hospital urologist, Dr Dumisani Mzamane, according to the jailed ANC leader's daughter, Mrs Zenani Dlamini.

The visit by the team of family-appointed doctors follows an announcement by the Prison's Department about two weeks ago that Mandela had had urological tests. Last week, he received treatment prescribed by a government urologist.

Mrs Dlamini commented today on rumours that Mandela had died. The source of the rumours was unknown.

"Such rumours cannot be out of concern for him, his family or the masses who thirst for freedom," she said.

She said the government had not had "the decency" to inform the family about Mandela's kidney problem.

"The first time we heard about his condition was when the foreign media telephoned to confirm if the family knew about his condition," she said.

35,000 Attend Peaceful Funeral Near Cape Town

MB220657 Umtata Capital Radio in English
0600 GMT 22 Sep 85

[Text] There has been a mass funeral of seven unrest victims near Cape Town. An estimated 35,000 people attended the funeral service yesterday in Guguletu Township. Rafik Rohan has the story.

The funeral service in the Guguletu Stadium started just before noon with about 30 interdenominational and interreligious clergymen in attendance. Among organizations which were prominent at the service were the United Democratic Front, the United Women's Organization, the Azanian Students Organization, and the Release Mandela Committee who also [word indistinct] at various points to stand as guards of honor. At various times during the service, an Army helicopter circled the stadium while a major police contingent maintained a low profile outside the township. When the service ended the procession which grew by another 5,000 [words indistinct] wound its way toward the cemetary in Guguletu singing and chanting slogans.

5 Killed, 30 Injured in Transvaal Mine Fighting

MB231520 Umtata Capital Radio in English
1500 GMT 23 Sep 85

[Text] Five people have been killed and 30 others injured in fighting at the Stilfontein Mine in the Transvaal. Sources say the faction fighting involved about 600 people at the mine. Four of the dead were Basothos and the other fatality was a Pondo. The injured are being treated at the mine hospital. No other details are available at the moment.

Police Disperse Stone-Throwers With Birdshot

MB231813 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1807 GMT 23 Sep 85

[Text] Pretoria, Sept 23, SAPA — A delivery vehicle was stoned in unrest in Soweto today, and police used birdshot to disperse the attackers, a police spokesman said in the 8 pm unrest report from Pretoria tonight. In another Soweto incident, a private vehicle was set alight, he said.

In King Williams Town, a private vehicle was also the target of stone-throwing and police again used birdshot to disperse the attackers. No casualties, injuries or arrests were reported from these incidents, the spokesman added.

In an incident not related to the unrest situation, at Thabazimbi, 25 black mineworkers were arrested after an illegal strike this afternoon. Police used tear smoke and rubber bullets to disperse the strikers, the spokesman said.

Police Report Notes Overnight Incidents

MB240643 Johannesburg SAPA in English
0634 GMT 24 Sep 85

[Text] Pretoria, Sep 24, SAPA — Following is the SAP's 8am "unrest situation report":

"A number of vehicles and buildings were extensively damaged by stonethrowers and arsonists overnight.

"In Soweto on the WWT [Witwatersrand], two delivery vehicles were damaged by petrol bombs.

"In the Guguletu blac residential area in the western Cape, a youth was slightly wounded and arrested when police dispersed a mob of stonethrowers who damaged a development board vehicle and two private motor vehicles.

"In the Zwide black residential area in the eastern Cape, arsonists caused extensive damage at two black schools in the area.

"At Kwa-Nobuhle, New Brighton and Veeplaas (all residential areas in the eastern Cape) three private homes were badly damaged by fire. During one of the incidents, a black man sustained serious burn wounds.

"In the Komga black residential area in the south-western Cape, a truck was extensively damaged by arsonists.

"At Veeplaas, a black man was fatally wounded during a house search when he attacked one of the policemen and tried to grab a shotgun.

"Arsonists caused extensive damage at a black school in the Jamestown black residential area of Pamaheng."

Police, SADF Seal Off Cape Townships 24 Sep

MB241111 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1108 GMT 24 Sep 85

[Text] Cape Town, Sept 24, SAPA — Langa, Nyanga and Guguletu were sealed off today by police and defence force troops.

A news photographer who tried to enter the erea was turned away and his car registration number noted by police.

He said access roads into the townships from the N2 highway had been blocked off.

Police confirmed that the three black townships had been sealed off, but would not say whether any incidents had occurred in the area.

A police spokesman said the peninsula's townships had been closed off because investigations into a number of public violence cases were in progress.

Investigation teams wre in the areas involved and a number of people were being sought in connection with the cases.

Meanwhile, a doctor at the Crossroads clinic said a young Langa man was admitted last night with buckshot wounds.

"He was walking down the road ... and it seems like he was shot at distance. He said he was walking on his own, at the time.

"He has two chest wounds and is coughing up quite a lot of blood," the doctor said.

Press Reportage on Ongoing Unrest

MB230805 [Editorial report] South African English- and Afrikaans-language newspapers continue to report and comment on the state of emergency:

Johannesburg *SUNDAY TIMES* in English on 22 Septmber says in its editorial: "Cynisicsm and incompetence make bad bedfellows. A government which is efficient can afford perhaps to talk in half-truths and live by denials. Its citizenry may not believe its word, but it will usually accept its deeds. An inefficient government, however, has to be passingly honest if it is to keep faith with the governed." "Today, as South Africa lurches from internal turmoil to external crisis," its inhabitants can be forgiven for believing they are living in "a disorderly house, for wondering whose hand, if any, is in control." The revelations this week about the government's contacts with Renamo and its "material" aid to UNITA have inflicted "another severe dent in the self-esteem of most people in this country — except perhaps for that minority who, with the unlamented Dr Connie Mulder, believe that 'no rules need apply.' South Africans may perhaps be inured to the fact that they have a cynical government. It is frightening to discover that they now have an incompetent one as well."

In a second editorial the *SUNDAY TIMES* notes: "The one bright spark in the gathering South African gloom is the acceptance by whites of the need for political renewal, constitutional change and negotiated options." The National Party's congresses have shown welcome realism this year, it says. "It is significant when party leaders, like Mr F.W. de Klerk, recognise the torn passions of the country and talk conciliation rather than confrontation. It is even more significant when delegates call for an increased tempo and greater clarity about reform." It is sad that President Botha so "often blurs the same reformist message through imperious delivery" and appears to be cautioning instead of encouraging, aggressive rather than accommodating. "The party is obviously behind him. It would be tragic if he were to lag further and further behind it," the editorial concludes.

Franklin Sonn, rector of the peninsula Technion and president of the Cape Professional Teachers Association, writes in a column on the same page: "If we fall into the trap of recrimination against the young, seeing them as irresponsible and gullible proselytes, we will unwittingly be stoking the fires of violence and lose all influence over them. We must face the fact that we are at the crunch point of the struggle for change in this country." It is time to abandon the "we'll show them who is boss" attitude, he says, which amounts to fighting fire with fire. Bridges of confidence must now be built. A prerequisite for this is a genuine recognition of the right of the young to peacefully pursue their legitimate political aspirations. After all, if it is claimed that this is an era of reform, the government must be gracious enough to accept that it alone cannot dictate the pace, extent, and manner in which change will come about." Nothing can be more shortsighted that to imagine that the security forces can permanently establish "normality" in the schools, Sonn says. "Authority remains cardinal," but it must not be confused with authoritarianism or naked power, he says. "The presence of military vehicles on school grounds and the hard-handed actions of police, far from intimidating students, radicalises them and welds parents, teachers and children in a common and open defiance of the hated apartheid system." If the government is genuinely interested in talking rather than fighting, Sonn says, it should appoint a permanent, wholly independent and credible judicial committee to receive complaints of police brutality from the public. "The absolute bottom line is that men like Nelson Mandela and Allan Boesak are released unconditionally, and that immediate and concrete steps are taken to enlist them and others in devising an agenda for talks on structuring the foundations of the new South Africa." It is purile for the government to dismiss "rampant discontent among young people merely as the work of evil agitators. Surely we must all recognise by now that unrest extracts a bitter price from the young and they do not engage in it for the fun of it. It is only done because the alternative — acquiescing in apartheid — is so ghastly." Teachers have a definite role, he says, to convince students that educational endeavor does not exclude the political struggle. "In the world of high technology and sophistication there is little place for dropouts," and it is naive to believe that political liberation alone will open every door. "Apart from all else, teachers need to demonstrate to students that the nobleness of sacrifice is vested in hard work and ardent preparation for the future, while at the same time working and struggling for change. It is not a question of either or, but of doing both."

In a column in the same edition, Alan Paton asks "Have we really created a generation of black and coloured children who actually hate us? Whose idea of living is to burn, stone and kill?" He says a Cape youth worker met young coloured children "who actually wanted to die. When they were asked why they stoned and burnt and killed, one of them said: 'Because we want to be killed, that's why.' " There must be some way to undo the harm that has been done, Paton says. "All I want to see is our country emerging from the morass in which we have all been living. I believe the State President wants to see that, too," he says. There are a few things Botha could do toward that aim, he says, and it will not be necessary for him to fully satisfy the Progressive Federal Party [PFP], the United Democratic Front, the Black Sash, or the SA Council of Churches. First, he should declare that his aim is the "dismantling of apartheid." Second, he should announce the he "earnestly desires to end the state of emergency." He should repeal the Group Areas Act, but more importantly he should not make statements such as the repeal of that act is nonegotiable. "Nothing is non-nengotiable today except the very foundation of society, the rule of law, which has suffered such damage at the hands of the National Party," Paton says. He should release the Rivonia prisoners, unconditionally, and "to appease the wrath of the western world," he should abolish detention without trial. In all, Botha must "give us something to hope for."

In the "Another View" column, Ken Owen says "the business community, the churches, and the schoolchildren, and perhaps even the armed forces, are taking charge of matters which the Nationalist government can no longer control." PFP leader Van Zyl Slabbert "is so worried about the need to negotiate that he has offered to work with President Botha to establish a forum, and is now creating a second forum of his own. He sees time running out. Mr Pik Botha is supposed to be in charge of foreign affairs, but Mr Raymond Parsons of ASSOCOM [Association of Chambers of Commerce] and Mr Jan Steyn of the Urban Foundation were arguing South Africa's case at the UN this week, saying sensibly that we are in a process of unstoppable change." Meanwhile, the SADF has been sending "humanitarian aid" to Renamo, an "astonishing display of ineptitude or recklessness in putting at risk the accord that has been South Africa's greatest recent diplomatic achievement." "These are all symptoms of a government whose legitimacy is in question, whose word carries little weight, and whose moral authority has been eroded until people begin to make their own solutions," Owen says. Elements of the Armed Forces in particular "have given the impression for some time that they are going their own way," he says. "The government's loss of credibility spills into other areas. Foreign banks have lost faith in the promises, and indeed in the will, to reform." At this point, South Africa's "very sovereignty is in question," he says, and "the pretence that the Nationalists know what they are doing in managing the country has been shattered." "The crowning irony is that the party that tried to impose apartheid, but failed, is now trying to dismantle it, and failing. So everybody else is rushing in to fill the vacuum of leadership," he ends.

The *SUNDAY TIMES* says in a report by Emielia Jaroschek that "police were being confronted with more and more currency smuggling cases" and that they are cracking down on an increasing variety of ploys to move millions of rands out of the country in the wake of the unrest. The upsurge in foreign exchange swindles is "reminiscent of the period after the 1976 riots," Jaroschek says. At that time a special team of experts was established by the SAP, dedicated entirely to uncovering this type of crime. The team was disbanded towards 1980 "when the business panic subsided and currency smuggling dwindled to a trickle," she says.

In a report by Cas St Leger, the *SUNDAY TIMES* says, "There is a growing rift in the Nederduitse Gereformeerde Kerk [Dutch Reformed Church (NGK)] over support for the Day of Prayer for Reconicliation." The NGK will offer no official support for the stayaway planned for 9 October, but individual ministers feel differently, St Leger says. Organizers for the National Initiative for Reconciliation conference held last week said NGK delegates represented the largest single denomination at the meeting and that only one NGK churchman spoke out openly against the stayaway call. "Of the 400 delegates from 47 Christian denominations, only six voted against the Day of Prayer motion; of these, two felt the motion was not radical enough," he says.

Johannesburg *THE SUNDAY STAR* in English on 22 September says in its editorial that vast reserves of energy are waiting to pour into the vacuum of leadership in South Africa today. "Never have so many people not normally involved in public politics made it so evident that they want to do something — if only they knew what." The problem is self-evident, *THE STAR* says, "somewhere along the reformist line, the State President lost his vision and his nerve." Botha's petulance at the Transvaal NP congress in Pretoria, when he said the businessmen who talked to the ANC should have stayed home and gotten their information from the government, illustrates the problem, it says. "Businessmen and others must go abroad to reach objective conclusions about banned organisations because the laws of Mr Botha's Government prevent them getting that information here. As for accepting uncritically the Government line, it is not possible. The country is in crisis precisely because the Government is tragically ignorant. No government with insight could have introduced a new constitution that excluded blacks." When the businessmen go to Zambia for talks, when the PFP and others get together to try and create a forum for talking, when business organizations "bypass a bungling government" to present their own case to the United Nations, they are making "their own commitment to forcing change," *THE STAR* says. "A genuine groundswell led by nonpolitical figures may well be the only way left to force the Government to move — or if it will not move, to make way for some political grouping that will."

Melanie Gosling reports in the same edition: "This year has seen South African businessmen take on the role of politicians as never before." The reason for the surge of political involvement is simple, she says, "big business is scared and, as one economist put it, 'they are being hurt where it rubs most — their pockets.' " Gosling quotes Tom Lodge, of the Department of Political Studies at Wits University, as saying, "big business has realised there is no way it can improve the economic situation until the Government convinces the world that it will undertake basic political reforms." Lodge notes that the businessmen's response to the current violence was different from their response to the 1976 riots. "After 1976, business founded the Urban Foundation, which really took on social and economic reform. Their response now is openly to tackle political reform because they realise it is a vital necessity for their survival." Peter Brews of The Wits School of Business says: "To some extent South African business is calling for reform because they're concerned about morality, but there is also a large group who have an insular mentality and know nothing about what's happening politically and socially until it effects them — as boycotts, strikes and the deterioration of the economy have. It is a shame business has only started putting pressure on the government now when the international world has almost come to the end of its patience."

Gosling reports in an accompanying article that "Afrikaans theologians do not set too much store by the presence of the Dutch Reformed Church" at the meeting for the National Initiative for Reconciliation. One signatory to the manifesto developed at the meeting told Gosling the NGK delegates attended the meeting unofficially. "Because of that, it would be too much to say the Dutch Reformed Church was moving towards calling for political change," he said. "But the fact that some of them were there is nevertheless significant because it shows meaningful change is beginning to happen in the Afrikaans church," He added. "Professor Ben Marais, a theologian and former dominee, said 40 years ago he and a few others opposed the political system but 'were voices in the wilderness.' 'Now that is changing. I understand the Dutch Reformed Synod actually asked some of their members to attend the meeting in Pietermaritzburg, which is significant even if they were there only as observers.' He said a growing number of young dominees realised there was no scriptural basis for apartheid," Gosling reports.

A joint article by Gosling and Caroline Hurry says that South African sportsmen are beginning to abandon attitudes like "keep politics out of sport," and "we should be allowed to play whoever we want despite our political system," and are calling for political change. The article quotes several sports personalities as urging that discriminatory laws be abolished and equal opportunities and joint decisionmaking for all be established to gain reentry into international sports competition.

Ken Vernon reports in the *SUNDAY STAR*: "A group of more than 40 white families in Grahamstown have joined blacks in boycotting white-owned businesses in the settler city in support of black demands calling for the lifting of the state of emergency and the release of political detainees." The group is organizing trips to shops in areas not affected by black consumer boycotts and has planned a series of house meetings as well as the distribution of pamphlets. A spokesman for the group said they had taken the action in support of black demands after being approached by the Grahamstown Burial Action Committee, which is directing the black consumer boycott. "However, the spokesman asked that members of the white group not be named for fear of reprisals from police and other members of the conservative white Grahamstown community," Vernon reports. "The stated aims of the boycott committee are the lifting of the state of emergency, the release of political prisoners, the lifting of the ban on public meetings and an assurance that black community leaders in hiding can re-emerge without fear of arrest." Vernon says the chairman of the Grahamstown Chamber of Commerce said his association planned to hold an executive meeting to discuss the formation of the white boycott group.

In a second article Vernon says the delicate accord between the black community and white businessmen in Port Alfred is in danger of collapse, following a call by students for the reimposition of the consumer boycott of white-owned businesses until the state of emergency is lifted and political detainees are released. Complicating the situation is the redetention of Gugile Nkwinti, a leader of the moderate faction in the township, under the state of emergency regulations this week. "Previously Mr Nkwinti and black community leaders had engineered an accord with white businessmen in the town who — after a historic meeting between black and white delegations — had acted to remove petty apartheid. Part of the original agreement was that local businessmen should not be penalised for not being able to meet blacks demands beyond their control — such as major changes in the country's political system." Nkwinti's redetention "has cast a shadow over that achievement," Vernon says, and "businessmen in the town were once again looking at the prospect of the renewal of a boycott this week."

"Municipalities are to be given the option to decide which suburbs under their control should be opened to all races," David Breier reports in the same edition. Breier quotes government sources as saying this policy could take effect next year after the President's Council reports on the Group Areas Act. "The new policy for open suburbs is expected to follow the same local option formula the Government has followed for central business districts." The President's Council has begun its study of the Group Areas Act, Breier says, but it is not likely that it will recommend the total abolition of the law. "There is still very strong pressure from within the National Party against it at this stage," he says. The Nationalists fear a mass exodus of voters to the Conservative Party if the government opens white suburbs to all races. He reports: "Government strategy is to put the onus to open their suburbs on white 'liberal' local authorities which would bear the brunt of any white backlash. The pioneer city is likely to be Cape Town and possibly Maritzburg, Durban and Sandton. If Cape Town is given the option to open its suburbs, it is likely to open all its suburbs, council spokesmen said this week. Should this result in a white backlash, then voters will be able to vote progressive councillors out of office in the next elections," Breier reports. Johannesburg is still controlled by the NP/Independent Ratepayers' Action alliance and is unlikely to take a lead on this issue, although it might apply for a suburb such as Hillbrow, he says.

ZIMBABWE

Nkomo Names 3-Man Delegation to Unity Talks

MB240632 Harare Domestic Service in English
0500 GMT 24 Sep 85

[Text] The PF-ZAPU leader, Dr Joshua Nkomo, says his party will go into the forthcoming unity talks with ZANU-PF determined that the negotiations succeed. He confirmed that he had met President Banana on three occasions at which the idea of new talks between the two parties was discussed. The third meeting was attended by the deputy prime minister, Comrade Simon Muzenda, and the minister of political affairs and coordination of cooperatives, Comrade Maurice Nyagumbo. The resumption of the talks was disclosed by Comrade Nyagumbo, who said the development was at Dr Nkomo's request.

The ZANU-PF side to the talks will consist of Comrade Nyagumbo; Comrade Emmerson Munangagwa, the minister of state for security; and Comrade Eddison Zvogbo, minister of justice, legal, and parliamentary affairs. That of PF-ZAPU will consist of Comrade Joseph Msika, the party's vice president; Comrade Naison Ndlovu; and Comrade John Nkomo, the party's deputy chairman and publicity secretary; respectively.